

Hafa Adai!

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Cory Monteith from the hit TV series "Glee" is found dead in a hotel room.

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# \$5.4M in child tax funds out

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

**I**t is Christmas in July for many folk in the CNMI, with \$5.4 million in child tax funds deposited into the CNMI Treasury from the U.S. Treasury on Friday.

According to a statement issued by Gov. Eloy Inos, the Department of Finance immediately began processing child tax checks for about 4,059 taxpayers certified by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

"We expect this to be a quick turnaround given that the Department of Finance already completed most of the paperwork before we sent them out to the IRS for certification," said Inos. "Today, with the funds deposited, CNMI Treasury went to work printing the checks

and packaging them for delivery to the post office."

The release of child tax checks comes a couple of weeks after tax refunds were also released by Finance.

Friday's announcement was greeted with glee not only by individual taxpayers and their families but also by local businesses that benefit from the release of child tax and tax rebate checks.

Truong's Restaurant, for instance, was busy all day long yesterday beginning

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## CUC wants rate hike by Oct. 1

» **Cost-based rate for gov't, PSS, CHCC, CPA recommended**

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. asked the Public Utilities Commission on Thursday for permission to increase its water, sewer, and electric base rates by Oct. 1, 2013.

CUC also asked the commission to give CUC's lowest income customers significant additional credit to save them money on their bills and to limit the impact of the proposed rate hike.

According to the rate petition, the increase in water and wastewater rates will enable CUC to continue working to provide 24-hour water to the island.

**See CUC on Page 4**

## FITNESS CHALLENGE

A participant prepares to carry a 185-lb mannequin to a point 100 feet away in one of the 10-obstacle course in the solo category during the First Annual CNMI Firefighter Fitness Challenge on Saturday at the baseball field of Saipan airport. Thirty joined in the solo category, while 12 teams competed in the team event.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

**See story on Page 2**

## WITH INSTALLATION OF MONITORING EQUIPMENT 'People on Pagan now more safe'

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Gov. Eloy S. Inos applauded the efforts of a visiting team from various federal agencies that installed seismic and surveillance monitoring equipment on Pagan last week, which he witnessed firsthand after flying to the distant Northern Islands outpost.

The visiting team was made up of members of the U.S. Army Engineer Research Development Center, U.S. Geological Survey, and XRI Geophysics.

"The governor was very impressed

with the highly advanced equipment that is now in place to provide proper monitoring of seismic activities as well as a live camera feed of the still active volcano on Pagan," said press secretary Angel Demapan.

He added that the demobilization of

**See PAGAN on Page 4**

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, left, is given a briefing on the latest equipment installed on Pagan that will monitor seismic activities as well as provide a live camera feed of the still active volcano on the island. At their back is the volcano.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



**DPW, Flores smoke peace pipe. PAGE 3**  
**Alleged burglar jumps off hotel's balcony. PAGE 5**

# Local

## Pete A not worried about US military plans for Pagan

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Senate on Friday confirmed Pete A. Tenorio as secretary of the Department of Public Lands and the former Washington representative wasted no time in saying that the CNMI shouldn't be worried about the U.S. Department of Defense's plans for Pagan, which the latter hopes to use for live-fire training.

Tenorio's office is in charge of managing public lands in the CNMI, including Pagan, a speck of land measuring less than 20 square miles some 200 miles north of Saipan. It, however, has pozzolan deposits—as much 90 million metric tons of it, according to Tenorio. Pozzolan, volcanic ash spewed by the volcano on Pagan, is used as an additive for concrete.

"[I'm] not worried about that...The U.S. military has its own perception and plan on how to use it. Pagan is being planned for mixed level training. But the U.S. military's plan is not going to preempt the CNMI government's plan for economic programs that we feel will be beneficial to the government. We will not stop any kind of development or interest because the military is saying 'we might need that land for our own exercises.' We cannot allow that. I think any state or territory wouldn't agree to being subjected to that. We're going to do our own planning," he said shortly after being confirmed as DOL secretary at the Senate chamber.

DOD announced early this year its plans to use Pagan, along with Tinian, for live-fire

training. At this stage, the plan has been met with opposition by some CNMI residents.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos has yet to request President Barack Obama for Covenant Section 902 talks on DoD's planned use of Pagan, federal control of local

immigration, and a host of other issues.

Inos flew to Pagan last week to personally witness the installation of seismic and surveillance monitoring equipment. He, however, wasn't able to inspect the pozzolan site due to time constraints.

Nonetheless, Tenorio said he plans to sit down with Inos soon to go over the administration's plan for the island.

### » Senate confirms former Washington rep. as DPL secretary

Personally, Tenorio said, he wants to visit Pagan soon as he has never been to the island in 20 years.

"One of these days I will be going up there and see for myself whether we got the resources there and if it really can make a difference for

our revenue generation."

The questions, however, remains whether there's enough pozzolan deposits on Pagan to make its mining economically feasible.

"There's various figures [of pozzolan deposits] from various scientists. It depends on who you talk to. I happen to know how to compute pozzolan and I look at the figures from

20 million metric tons all the way to 90 million metric tons. It's all very subjective type of evaluation because nobody really has come up there to measure the thickness every few feet, the slope, and to see how much or what volume of pozzolan is there. Especially now that there's already been a lot of wash off to the ocean from the original deposit," said Tenorio.

He said the first order of business is to conduct a survey of the island to determine, once and for all, how much pozzolan deposits exist on Pagan.

"It's for everybody's benefit. Why encourage business to go up there when you know that they will fail because there's not enough deposit," he added.

JG Sablan Rock Quarry Inc. was the holder of a commer-

cial mining permit issued on Sept. 8, 1995, by the Marianas Public Land Corp., now DPL. That permit was for the mining and extraction of pozzolan on Pagan.

DPL terminated the permit on May 3, 2006. After six years of litigation, the CNMI Supreme Court upheld on March 30, 2012, the permit's termination.

"I'm looking at the history and chronology of what happened. An RFP is essential for leasing. This was a permit that was issued whether the pozzolan is in effect actually exploitable and sufficient in amount to generate major income to the CNMI. That has never been proven because the permit was terminated before metric ton of pozzolan was extracted to market," said Tenorio.

## 12 teams compete in 1st Annual CNMI Firefighter Fitness Challenge

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

Eleven teams accepted the challenge to compete against the CNMI's finest team of firefighters during the First Annual CNMI Firefighter Fitness Challenge, a fundraising event held Saturday at the baseball field of the Saipan airport.

The team participants were four from the Department of Public Safety, two from Trench Tech, three from Get Fit CNMI—one female team and two male teams, one from the Commonwealth Ports Authority's Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Division, one from Hoopaholics, and one from Gold's Gym.

The all-day competition, which started at 9am, was divided into solo or individual and team events. The participants

competed in the 10-obstacle course challenge.

The CNMI's elite team of firefighters was the team to beat. Thirty persons also competed in the solo or individual event.

The individual and team that registered with the fastest time received a trophy, prize, and bragging rights.

There were also two other competitions—the firetruck pull and the bucket brigade.

As of press time, *Saipan Tribune* only got the results from the firetruck pull event.

The five-man DPS Alpha team emerged as the champion by pulling a 14-ton firetruck filled with water a distance of 100 feet in just 30 seconds.

Included in the 10-obstacle course in the individual and team categories were pulling a dry hose, hooking the hose

to the fire hydrant, picking up a hose bundle, and carrying a 185-lb mannequin for a distance of 100 feet.

DPS Fire Division spokesperson Jocelyn Alvarez said the Firefighter Fitness Challenge is part of their fundraising events for their participation in a similar competition in Guam this October.

Alvarez said the CNMI's DPS team emerged champion last year by besting teams from the Guam Air Force firefighters, Guam firefighters, Guam airport firefighters, and Guam Navy firefighters.

"We're trying to raise funds so we can send our team to Guam to defend the title," Alvarez said.

Before going to Guam, she said there will be a tryout as to who will represent the CNMI's elite team.

marketing on channel Home & Shopping for 3-night and 4-night packages to Tinian.

The package offers \$200 in special benefits including Asiana Airlines mileage, an ATV tour, island tour, an underwater camera, and more. Of 1,800 calls received during the one-hour television show, an estimated 250 pax were expected to book the package. The promotion is also being carried on Lotte Tour's website. The target sales goal is to sell 400 pax by Aug. 31, 2013.



The campaign is also supported by **Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino** with in-kind contributions, Asiana Airlines with discounted seats, and the **Marianas Visitors Authority**.

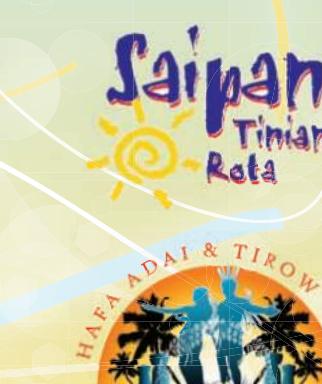
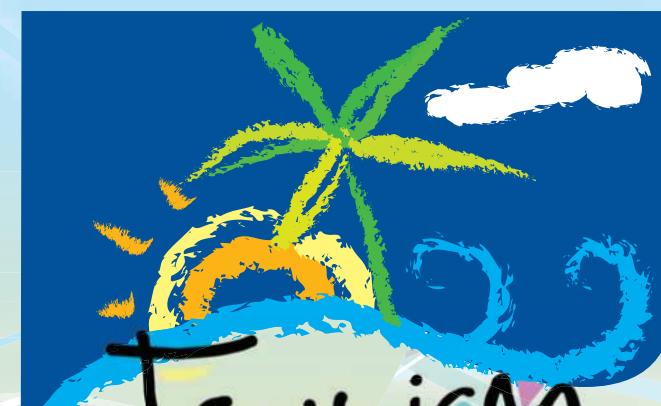
Paid for with a federal grant from the Office of Insular Affairs.

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

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On June 16, 2013, **Lotte Tour** conducted TV home shopping



AFTER SPAT DUE TO CAPPING OF MEDIAN

# DPW, Flores smoke peace pipe

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The spat between Department of Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan and Saipan Mayor Donald Flores is apparently over after the two met last Thursday, a day after Gov. Eloy S. Inos said that safety rather than aesthetics should be the priority as far as DPW's median project is concerned.

Sablan himself confirmed that he met with Flores on Thursday. "He [Flores] requested to come and see me yesterday at 1 o'clock so the mayor did come in and Mr. [Henry] Hofsneider. We met at our office and we discussed about the things that was going on," the DPW secretary said.

Sablan, who was at the Senate Friday for Pete A. Tenorio's confirmation as Department of Public Lands secretary, said that among the issues that Flores was concerned about with the median capping project was whether DPW was also capping the triangular island across Micro Toyota in Oleai.

"He thought we were going to remove all those flowers and cap it. But no we're not," he said.

He, however, told the mayor that the revegetated median alongside it will have to be capped and to this end he told Flores that he will be writing

him a letter requesting the removal of the flowers.

Sablan said Flores didn't have any problem with that and even said that it was good DPW is now coordinating with the mayor's office since flowers and plants on that particular median could still be used.

In fact, Sablan said the mayor told him the Division of Parks and Recreation has already requested that they be given the uprooted flowers and plants as they want to replant them elsewhere on the island.

All in all, Sablan said the median capping project will be a win-win for Saipan residents and tourists.

"It's going to look nice and it's not going to be an eyesore because we're still going to have those palm trees and in addition to that they can still put some flowers on those boxes we provided," he said.

Once the median capping is completed, DPW's contractor Radiocom will then upgrade the traffic system, followed by the striping of intersections.

As for criticisms that the capping of medians would encourage jaywalking, Sablan said the violators are too few and far between.

"If you look at our visitors—people from China, Japan, and Korea—believe me if you ever go to those big cities those peo-

ple tend to go to crosswalks and they don't jaywalk. Jaywalking is really not an issue here. In the big cities you don't see those people jaywalking. They go to the corner of the street and utilize the crosswalk. If you see one, maybe that's one of only a few. Basically that's not intended for jaywalkers."

Sablan, meanwhile, said that DPW has done its best to keep the island's main thoroughfares clear of overgrowth.

"From the Mobil gas station in Chalan Piao up to the airport we cleared out everything there and all the roads that need our attention."

He also said that DPW is coordinating with the mayor's office in clearing out rotting or dying flame trees alongside highways.

"We already identified and wrapped yellow caution ribbon around these dead or dying trees. The mayor's office cuts it down and come back and replace it with other flame trees. So they will be planting another flame tree on top of that."

Another bit of good news is that DPW, Sablan said, will soon have a bucket truck, the same equipment the mayor's office has been asking the Legislature for. He said he is open to working with Flores and his office if the latter needs the bucket truck.



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# PSS distance education program expanded

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

After careful review and assessment of its distance education program, the Board of Education has decided not only to continue but also expand the program's coverage and endorsed additional funding for it for next school year.

From \$503,895 this school year, the Public School System wants to increase the distance education program's budget by \$300,000, using the system's consolidated grant for fiscal year 2014. Once the federal agency approves PSS' request, funding for the online program will total \$800,000.

## Saipan mayor to welcome 2 youth delegations

The Saipan Mayor's Office will host not one but two youth delegations in the next couple of weeks.

The International Youth Association of Japan, or KSKK, will be the first to arrive; they are expected on Saipan on July 29 and will be here until Aug. 5, 2013.

This group consists of 15 students and a chaperone who will need to be housed during their stay on Saipan.

"We appreciate host families who have confirmed their participation; however, we still need five host families. Individuals or families interested in hosting [may] contact our office," the mayor

said. "We will continue our distance education courses offering between 36 to 48 online courses to our high school and junior high school students," according to the PSS grant application approved by the board.

Courses include but are not limited to biology, chemistry, a suite of Advanced Placement courses, real world design, financial literacy, SAT prep, and several math, history and literature courses.

According to PSS federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh, they expect at least 1,600 students to take advantage of these online

courses that enable students to graduate early or to take additional courses as they prepare for college and/or careers.

The anticipated manpower shortfall in public schools this coming school year has prompted

some concerns that the money that goes to funding the distance education program could be better used to hire needed classroom teachers. It was also learned that many students drop the online courses by the end of the school year.

For school year 2012-2013, it was disclosed that PSS offered 48 online classes in the first se-

mester of the school year to approximately 1,800 students. On the second semester, the online classes were reduced to 36 and were availed by about 1,500 high school students. The program has also been criticized by some students who say they are no learning a lot due to non-person instruction they are getting from afar.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D., believes, however, that the program is all about 21<sup>st</sup> century education and is a proven effective tool and must continue. Since the program started at PSS, over a hundred students have graduated early by availing of the online program, she said.

### » BOE endorses \$800K budget for online courses

or's office said.

The Host Family Application Form is available at the Office of the Mayor of Saipan for anyone interested to be a host family. To learn more about the program and to answer any questions, call 234-6208 and ask for KSKK Saipan coordinator Joann Aquino.

Meanwhile, Sanpo-En Student Cultural Exchange Program is expected to arrive on the island a day later on July 30.

This year actually marks the 35th anniversary of the program, which was formed through the Saipan Mayor's Office, Municipality of Japan in 1978.

Making the trip to Saipan this

year are 38 students ages 10-17 years old, nine staff or chaperones, and the high priest Kan-sho Kayaki.

Part of the program is for the students to live with a family or an individual for two nights.

To this end, the Saipan Mayor's Office is asking interested individuals or families to contact its office to be a host family for the students on the evening of Aug. 1 to about noon on Aug. 3, 2013.

At this time, the Saipan Mayor's Office said it needs 12 host families. "This will be a great experience for both the students and families," said the mayor's office.

Aside from the 48 in the

Sanpo-En delegation, some 54 alumni of the program from Japan will also be arriving on Aug. 1 to celebrate the 35th year of the program, according to program coordinator Susumu Kayaki.

The Saipan's Mayor Office is asking the alumni from Saipan, Tinian, or Rota who participated in this program to contact its office as soon as possible.

"Your participation will make this 35th anniversary a memorable one for all," it said.

Larissa Flores will serve as the coordinator for the Sanpo-En group. She can also be reached at 234-6208. (*Mark Rabago*)

wastewater services currently pay \$49.79; this would increase to \$64.78.

Residential customers using 10,000 gallons of water and wastewater services currently pay \$90.61; this would go up to \$128.31.

Commercial customers would experience similar increases.

#### Cost-based rate

Under the petition, CUC also recommends the implementation of a full cost-based rate for the government, public schools, hospital, and the Commonwealth Ports Authority for the next five years.

For many years, these classes of customers have been paying at a rate that is higher than what it costs CUC provide its services. In its petition, CUC admits that this is "a well-intentioned program" that helped subsidize residential and commercial water and wastewater rates.

"Unfortunately today, some government payers are no longer able to meet this obligation," the CUC petition states.

According to CUC, as of June 27 this year, the central government, Public School System, and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. owes CUC a combined total of over \$15 million.

Residential customers using 5,000 gallons of water and

ficult position of being unable to collect outstanding revenues and therefore short on cash to fund required maintenance operations."

The proposed full cost-based rate is projected to result in a gradual reduction of each of these customer class' rates in each of the next five years.

CUC notes that the implementation of a cost-based government rate will unavoidably result in increased rates for residential and commercial users in order to make up the revenue lost by the elimination of the government subsidy.

#### Base rate increase

Based on the petition, CUC would like to slightly adjust its customers' electric base rate, which represents the amount CUC pays for all non-fuel costs to produce and deliver electricity. Base rate also includes complying with the requirements of stipulated orders.

A residential customer using 300 kilowatt-hour of electric service currently pays \$109.92; this would increase to \$111.50—an increase of just \$1.58—under the new rate hike petition.

For residential users of 500 kWh, their monthly total of \$178.08 would increase to \$200.26—an increase of

\$22.18. A residential customer using 1,000 kWh of electric service currently pays \$382.97; that would increase to \$438.15—an increase of \$55.18.

#### Lifeline rate

CUC also wants to restructure its electric Lifeline rate with a plan that it describes as more beneficial to the lowest-income customers who have minimal usage. It wants to do this by offering a credit of up to \$28 per month for residential customers who have less than 200 kWh per month consumption.

CUC believes that this will provide much more significant rate relief to the neediest customers who use 200 kWh per month and would pay a monthly electric bill of about \$76 under the proposed rates. After the application of the credit, the bill will be about \$48.

At 100 kWh, the bill drops to about \$34 and with the credit, the bill falls to approximately \$6 per month—an 82-percent reduction.

CUC operates as an independent non-profit public corporation that heavily relies on revenues generated from its customers.

The commission is expected to hear the rate petition at its September hearing.

## USDA transpo cost reimbursements out

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has begun issuing approximately \$1.996 million in fiscal year 2012 payments through a program that assists farmers and producers outside the contiguous United States who paid to transport either an agricultural commodity or an input used to produce an agricultural commodity.

The sign-up period for the fiscal year 2013 program begins on July 22.

"All farmers and ranchers

face challenges but U.S. farmers and ranchers who are not on the mainland have a real competitive disadvantage when it's time to move their products to market," said USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack. "These payments help them offset some of their increased transportation cost, which not only helps the producers but also benefits consumers who have access to increased varieties of nutritious food for the family table." (*PR*)

## PAGAN

*From Page 1*

the base camp following the six-week operation is expected to wrap up next week.

"While this project will play a huge role in ensuring the safety of the people in Pagan, it will also provide for the constant collection of necessary data in terms of the volcanic activity."

Inos also praised local partner agencies such as Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office, Department of Public Safety-Fire's EMS team, Northern Islands Mayor Tobias Aldan Northern Islands, and councilman Diego Kaipat.

"The governor was also very pleased to learn that several of

the Pagan residents were also involved in the project. During the brief visit, Governor Inos was able to meet some of the residents, including Councilman Kaipat who joined the governor on the ground tour of the project sites," said Demapan.

Inos was, however, unable to survey the sites where pozzolan deposits are located on the island.

"The pozzolan sites were in a different location and because of very limited time on the ground, the governor was not able to go out to the sites," Demapan said.

Pagan is located about 320 kilometers (200 miles) north of Saipan. With an area of 47.23 square kilometers (18.24 square miles), it is the fourth largest island of the Northern Marianas.

## TAX

*From Page 1*

from 11:30am onwards.

The Vietnamese restaurant's supervisor, Lito Cada, said he expects to get \$3,000. He plans to use it to pay for the tuition of his three children, buy school supplies, and some tucked away as savings.

Jerry Tubale, a resident of Koblerville, said they are still waiting on their child tax checks to arrive. The father of three said once they get the money they will immediately go to the Commonwealth Health Center to—ironically—pay arrears from the birth of their latest child.

Larry Pangilinan, a father of two, will use the money for his daughter and son's needs. He said they expect \$1,400 from the mail.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said the Inos administration expects all child tax checks to be in the mail throughout the weekend.

Once the checks are delivered, taxpayers should allow the U.S. Postal Service personnel to sort the mail for delivery to mailboxes including the USPS rural branches and privately-run mail box providers.

Taxpayers who do not receive their child tax checks in the mail by next Friday are encouraged to call the Division of Revenue and Taxation at 664-1040/44 to verify that there are no deficiencies in their file.

# 'IRS seeks to forfeit over \$100M from Tinian Dynasty'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

The U.S. government's indictment against Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino is seeking the forfeiture of over \$100 million in assets, according to Tinian Dynasty's lawyer,

Bruce Berline.

He said the indictment charged Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investments Ltd., which owns Tinian Dynasty, with one count of conspiracy to cause a financial institution to fail to file a currency transaction report and

nine counts of causing a financial institution to fail to file a currency transaction report.

Based upon the 10 counts, Berline said the U.S. government has included a forfeiture claim of \$16 million in projected transactions for which the currency transaction report were not filed, along with forfeiture of the entire hotel and casino complex.

"Taking it to account the worth of the hotel/casino facility, the government is seeking to obtain a forfeiture of well over 100 million dollars in assets," the lawyer said.

Berline disclosed the total amount involved in the forfeiture case in his request Thursday for a postponement of the trial date and filing deadline.

The trial is set to begin on Aug. 19, 2013.

Berline asked the court to move the trial date to Dec. 16, 2013.

Berline said the government provided several thousands pages of discovery to his client and provided an additional 14,000 pages of discovery to the lawyers of Hong Kong Entertainment and co-defendants. He said he expects further discovery from the government.

At this time, Berline said, it is nearly impossible for Hong Kong Entertainment to review the amount of discovery provided by the government and be prepared to file pre-trial motions or be ready to provide effective defense for the company at trial as it is currently scheduled.

"The amount of discovery in this matter combined with the seriousness of the charges and the amount of assets that the government is seeking mandates the need for additional time to adequately prepare a defense in this matter," he said.

Federal agents seized a total of \$539,969 in U.S. funds and foreign and domestic currencies belonging to Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino. They are also seeking the forfeiture of the funds as well as \$16.6 million more in money and other property.

The indictment also charged Tinian Dynasty's VIP services manager George Que and casino manager Tim Blythe.

Federal agents arrested Que on April 25 and executed war-

rant to seize Tinian Dynasty property and its money in bank accounts.

According to the charges, Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino allowed gamblers to conduct transactions involving more than \$10,000 without filing CTRs with the U.S. government since September 2009 to the present.

In May 2012, Internal Revenue Service's Criminal Investigation initiated an undercover operation concerning possible illegal activities at Tinian Dynasty by having two agents pose as Russian gamblers wishing to use large amounts of cash but not wanting any reports filed with the government about their use of cash.

## Alleged burglar jumps off hotel's balcony

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

A suspected burglar was injured when he jumped from the balcony of one of the rooms on the second floor of Century Hotel in Garapan to the rooftop of a storage room early Friday morning.

A police officer who responded to the scene came upon Vincent K. Antonius, 21, who was still on top of the storage room as he could not stand up due to his injuries. Medics transported Antonius to the Commonwealth Health Center, but released him at 1:57am. His specific injuries were not indicated in the police's report.

Saipan Tribune learned that Antonius was subsequently detained at the Department of Corrections for burglary. He is being kept on a \$25,000 cash bail.

A police officer responded to Century Hotel at 12:39am after receiving a call about a burglary case.

When the officer arrived, two men informed him that a man who attempted to burglarize some hotel rooms jumped from the balcony on the second floor and was still on the roof of the storage room lo-

cated north of the hotel.

"We thought the man was already dead because he was not moving anymore," one witness said.

One guest told police that the suspect, later identified as Antonius, got inside his room from the balcony's sliding door.

The guest said he was awakened by noises and was surprised to see the suspect inside his room. The guest said he shouted at the suspect to ask him what he was doing there.

The suspect ran away and jumped off from the balcony, landing on his back at the top of the storage room. The distance between the balcony and the roof was about 8 to 10 feet, a witness said.

Another guest also saw Antonius trying to get inside another room prior to the incident.

At DOC, Antonius reportedly told a police detective that he was drunk and does not remember what happened.

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# Hold sought on govt's sole-source contract for COP land lease

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

An investor and a taxpayer have asked the Superior Court for a temporary restraining order and a preliminary injunction to stop the departments of Public Lands and Finance from pursuing a sole-source contract to lease the public land where Coral Ocean Point Resort Club sits.

Attorney Robert H. Myers Jr., counsel for Pacific Investment Development Corp. and Vicente O. Litulumar, said his clients will be irreparably harmed by DPL's and Finance's alleged pursuit of a sole-source contract to lease the land with Suwaso Corp., Micronesia Resorts Inc., and E-Land Park Limited, or any similar individual or entity.

E-Land is reportedly the new majority owner of Coral

Ocean Point.

PIDC, through attorney Ramon K. Quichocho, had sued DPL and Finance in November 2012 over the alleged waiving of assumed tax obligations of E-Land Group of Korea.

In PIDC's new motions filed last week, Myers cited DPL's recent agreement with Suwaso Corp., Micronesia Resorts Inc., and E-Land Park Limited to immediately begin the renovation of COP on or before July 31, 2013, despite the underlying lease agreement having been allegedly terminated since June 2012, not rescinded, and the first extension agreement for another 15-year lease extension was not approved by the Legislature.

Myers said that when asked about the non-rescinded, terminated lease agreement signed by then acting DPL secretary Pete

I. Itibus, DPL Secretary Pete A. Tenorio stated that he was still reviewing what transpired over the last two years.

Despite the fact that the latest 15-year lease extension deal was not approved by the Legislature, the terminated lease agreement signed by Itibus was not rescinded, and about two years have passed with no renovations occurring, all of a sudden DPL is now continuing to pursue performance of the purported terms and conditions of the lease agreement with Suwaso Group, Myers said.

The lawyer said that Suwaso Corp. had promised the Legislature in August 2011 that Coral Ocean Point would be renovated.

Myers said the terms and conditions set out in Tenorio's May 1, 2013, letter to Suwaso Corp. represent three phases for

renovation plans, financing or renovation, and public facility improvements.

Myers said the terms and conditions of the original lease agreement plus its amendments require much more than the requirements in the May 1 letter.

While it has been reported that Suwaso Corp. paid its past-due tax obligations, Myers said that Finance simply identified the tax obligations as unpaid. Myers said Finance took out the interest, late charges and penalties totaling about \$600,000.

He said Tenorio admitted that Suwaso Corp. has not met the terms and conditions of the 15-year lease-extension agreement, but stated "we just can't go and

terminate them right away."

Myers said if a request for proposals were opened for the COP project, then any lease agreement would be for 25 years with the option for 15-year lease extensions subject to legislative approval, with a maximum lease period of 40 years.

Finally, if PIDC were to receive the award, Myers said, the revitalization plan for the COP project would be expanded, which would further serve the public interest.

In December 2011, PIDC president Cheong Pui Ng promised an additional \$1 million to rehabilitate the hotel in exchange for a 25-year lease with an option to lease up to 40 years

for the management and operation of COP.

COP is located on a 735,023 square meter property at Agigangan Point, Saipan. Under the law, any lease and extension of lease of public land consisting of more than five hectares requires legislative approval.

Attorney Vincente DLG. Torres, of Suwaso Corp., stated last year that the result of DPL's termination of the lease agreement and the seizure of COP's bank accounts was catastrophic.

Torres said that COP suffered severe financial loss in the thousands of dollars because the hotel was unable to accept credit cards payments at the pro shop and at the restaurant.

## Kilili lauds Napolitano's role in NMI federalization

**WASHINGTON, D.C.—** Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano announced Friday her departure from the Department to become president of the University of California system. Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) issued the following statement, reflecting on the importance of Napolitano in the ongoing transition to federal immigration in the Northern Mariana Islands.

"Secretary Janet Napolitano has been instrumental in making the transition to federal immigration in the Northern Mariana Islands as least difficult as

possible. From her initial decision in 2009 to delay the start of the transition by 180 days to better prepare for this complex undertaking to her approval of an advance parole system that allowed for continued growth in tourism to the Northern Marianas from Russia and China, Secretary Napolitano has shown a great practical understanding of the needs of the people I represent.

"Her decision to provide humanitarian parole to groups identified in immigration legislation that is now under consideration continues to keep fami-

lies together in the Northern Marianas, until Congress can finish its work. And I am personally grateful to her – as are so many in the Northern Marianas, who have aging parents or other family members in need of live-in assistance – for Secretary Napolitano's decision to extend parole eligibility to domestic caregivers.

"I extend heartfelt thanks to Secretary Janet Napolitano for her work leading the Department of Homeland Security and wish her the best as she takes on her new leadership role in academia." (PR)

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# MCS students post continued gains in SAT-10 test

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Maintaining the trend of previous years, Mount Carmel School announced Thursday that its students fared very well in the recently administered SAT-10 national standardized test.

The results show significant improvement in all subjects across all grade levels. On average, students performed at or above the 50th percentile and improved from the previous year.

For the complete school year 2013-2014 battery, the average performance of all students was in the 61st percentile.

National percentile ranks indicate the relative standing of a student in comparison with

other students in the same grade in the norm reference group who took the test at a comparable time.

Based on the school's results for last year, students at Mount Carmel School scored, on average, better than 61 percent of the rest of the nation.

Performance on specific subject areas also showed marked improvement from previous years. The average performance in math increased from the 55th percentile in 2011 to the 64th percentile in 2013, while the average performance in reading increased from the 42nd percentile in 2011 to the 57th percentile in 2013. The average in science increased from the 46th percentile in 2011 to the 60th percentile in 2013, while the average in social studies increased

from the 46th percentile in 2011 to the 57th percentile in 2013.

School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero attributed this success to the school's renewed emphasis on academic rigor.

"In school year 2012-2013, we adopted the new Catholic

school standards and raised our standards and expectations for effective teaching and for student achievement," he said.

The National Standards and Benchmarks for Effective Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools contain nine "Defining

Characteristics" of Catholic schools based on Church teachings, 13 standards, and 70 benchmarks. Together, they describe what it means to be a Catholic school and cover four key areas: Mission and catholic identity, governance and leader-

ship, academic excellence, and operational vitality.

"We look forward to continue raising student achievement by improving instructional quality, refining our curriculum, and enhancing our college-prep programs," said Deleon Guerrero.

## Tydingco-Gatewood clarifies briefing schedule order

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood on Thursday granted the NMI Retirement Fund's motion to clarify the court's briefing schedule on the various motions in the Fund's lawsuit against the CNMI government.

Tydingco-Gatewood said if a

motion for preliminary approval of the settlement agreement in the Betty Johnson lawsuit is not filed by July 22, 2013, then any opposition to the motions pending in the Fund's action shall be filed no later than July 29, 2013, with reply briefs due no later than Aug. 5, 2013.

Tydingco-Gatewood said a hearing on the motions shall be

held on Aug. 16, 2013, at 9am.

In her June 5 order, Tydingco-Gatewood set a briefing schedule for the various motions to remand filed by the CNMI government and the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

In the Fund's request for clarification filed Tuesday, Fund counsel Braddock J.

Huesman said that, as the briefing and hearing schedule required by the courts' June 5, 2013, scheduling order is still in effect, the Fund will incur very substantial additional legal fees to draft and prepare its oppositions to the motions to remand the lawsuit to the Superior Court. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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# DFW deploys new fish aggregation devices

The Division of Fish and Wildlife's Fisheries Research Section has just completed the deployment of 5 new Fish Aggregation Devices, also known as FADs at the following locations:

Latitude	Longitude	Buoy	General Area
15°04'36"N	145°32'56"E	GG	West of Tinian
15°14'54"N	145°29'47"E	II	West of Saipan
15°19'19"N	145°32'20"E	JJ	West of Saipan
15°17'11"N	145°41'20"E	KK	NW of Managaha
15°20'45"N	145°46'00"E	LL	SW Marpi Reef

FADs FF and HH can also be found at the following locations:

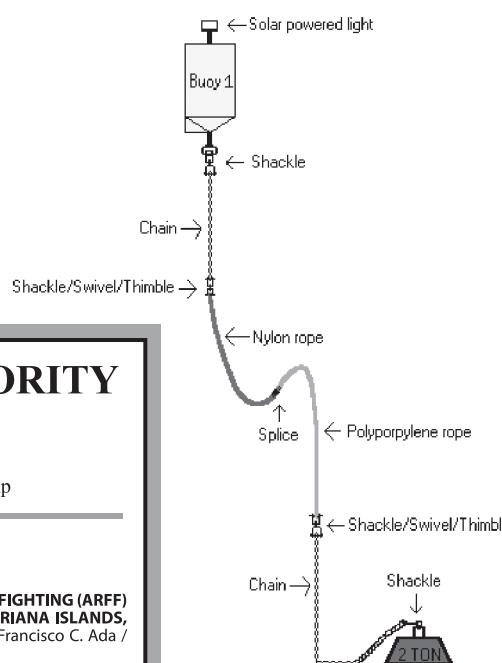
Latitude	Longitude	Buoy	General Area
15°59'54"N	145°27'42"E	FF	West of Tinian
15°09'51"N	145°28'15"E	HH	SW of Saipan

## What are FADs?

FADs may be considered as a structural oasis in the open ocean, providing a home or hiding place for bait fishes and a feeding ground for pelagic fishes such as skipjack tuna, yellowfin tuna, wahoo, and mahi-mahi.

## Why FADs?

FADs provide an alternative method of fishing compared to shore-based fishing. Fish aggregating devices benefit fishermen by maintaining a set location where target, pelagic fishes may be caught; minimizing the time spent searching for schools of



fish or flocks of birds; reducing fuel consumption when fishing; reducing cost to fishermen; and by obtaining information on fish and FAD interactions. FADs also reduce fishing pressure on reef fishes.

The CNMI Division of Fish & Wildlife's FAD program is ongoing and will be replacing, maintaining, and adding more FADs across the CNMI on a yearly basis, and is funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through the Dingell-Johnson Sportfish Restoration Grant. (DFW)

## 3 Tinian beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged the Unai Masalok, Unai Dandkollo, and Leprosarium Beach on Tinian and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Tinian's recreational beaches and storm drainages every Wednesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)

# Flashback

## A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

**July 15, 2005**

### JNB backs Verizon sale-finally

After putting up a strong opposition to the sale of Verizon, Gov. Juan N. Babauta finally changed his stance and threw his support behind the multi-million-dollar telecom deal. Babauta said yesterday that he would not contest the Commonwealth Telecommunications Commission's final order, which removed all obstacles to Pacific Telecom Inc.'s purchase of Verizon from Micronesian Telecommunications Corp. Babauta has until Monday to elevate the matter to the Superior Court, his lawyer, assistant attorney general James Livingstone, said. "Our objections resulted in many concessions from MTC and PTI for the benefit of our people. I believe the public interest has been served," the governor said.

### Tobacco funds reprogrammed for CUC

Gov. Juan N. Babauta has reprogrammed Tobacco Control Funds totaling some \$95,000 for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. amid the current power crisis. In a letter disapproving a bill that sought to tap into the funds, Gov. Juan N. Babauta said the bill does not meet the requirement on the use of Tobacco Control Funds set forth in Public Law 13-38. He also cited the lack of funds owing to the reprogramming for CUC. "I cannot approve this measure due to the fact that the funds identified are not available for appropriation. The funds have been reprogrammed to the CUC Emergency Fuel Contingency Account," said Babauta.

**July 15, 2006**

### Judiciary 2 months behind in loan payment

The Judicial Branch has been two months behind in paying its loan with the NMI Retirement Fund, with arrears amounting to \$236,000. The Judiciary, which took out a \$13-million loan with the Fund several years ago to construct its complex in Susupe, is obliged to pay the Fund \$118,245 a month. Fund administrator Karl T. Reyes said Thursday that the payments for May and June this year have not been remitted. Reyes followed up on the outstanding debt in a letter to Finance Secretary Eloy Inos.

### Tank repair work to affect water supply to Kagman

Some areas in Kagman will experience less water supply or no water at all for a few weeks as contractors start repair work on the one-million gallon water tank in Kagman on Tuesday. Commonwealth Utilities Corp. spokesperson Pamela Mathis said yesterday that residents who experience water shortages are encouraged to contact the Saipan Mayor's Office for water deliveries. Mathis said the contractors-Ericco Enterprises and Maeda Corp.-would repair the leaks on the water tank pursuant to the original warranty in the contracts.

**July 15, 2007**

### 'Low-cost carriers could save NMI'

The Northern Marianas may significantly benefit from having low-cost carriers fly to the CNMI as they tend to be more flexible in their flight operations to meet the changing travelers' needs. In his presentation Friday during the Marianas Visitors Authority's general membership meeting at Hyatt Regency Saipan, route development consultant John Woolf said low-cost carriers predominantly focus on leisure traffic for shorter routes, usually four- to five-hour flights. As such, low-cost carriers may easily link Saipan to nearby routes such as Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and other Asian countries. Woolf's team is in discussions with different airlines, including low-cost carriers, to promote the CNMI route. He said the CNMI's tropical setting "is an attractive destination route for low-cost carriers."

### Avast, me hearties! Saipan to talk like a pirate

The CNMI will once again mark a first by joining the rest of the world in celebrating "Talk Like a Pirate Day" in September, to be organized by the American Memorial Park. AMP site manager and park manager Nancy Kelchner said the event would be held on Sept. 19 at the American Memorial Park Visitor Center. She said the venue would be transformed to evoke an atmosphere that would transport people to a time when pirates rules the oceans. Kelchner said the center would provide visitors with pirate hats, eye patches and swords made out of paper and cardboards to add to the merriment. The venue will also be adorned with papier-mâché parrots. She said the Visitor Center would be showing pirate-themed films before the International Talk Like A Pirate Day.

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## NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) 1,500-GALLON AIRCRAFT RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING (ARFF) VEHICLE to the FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, CPA-SA-002-13, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada / Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Contractors are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Procurement and Delivery of One (1) 1,500-Gallon ARFF Vehicle to the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, CPA-SA-002-13", and submitted no later than 2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 2013, to the Office of the Acting Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new aircraft rescue fire fighting vehicle in accordance with the specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred eighty (180) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for procurement and delivery in its entirety shall be THREE HUNDRED SIXTY (360) CALENDAR DAYS. Liquidated damages of FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00) shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

A CD-Rom containing the bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00) for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 10:00 AM, FRIDAY, JULY 19, 2013, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All prospective bidders are required to attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rates established by CNMI Law or Federal Law, whichever is higher. The Contractor shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

Each bidder must supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by US Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than TEN PERCENT (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ FRANCES C. MAFNAS  
Acting Chair of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: July 11, 2013

# PAYLESS SUPERMARKET

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Buy worth of \$20 Groceries,  
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For  
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Pork Babyribs 10 lbs/case  
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Groceries,  
Get Baby  
Spareribs For  
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Chicken Leg Quarter  
Buy Worth Of \$20 Groceries,  
Get Chicken Leg Quarter  
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Limit 2  
Buy Worth Of \$20  
Groceries, Get Shin  
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Buy Worth Of \$20 Groceries, Get  
Bowl Noodles For  
Limit 1  
Reg. Price \$8.99  
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Nongshim Bowl  
Noodles  
Picante or Kimchi Flavor  
**\$1.75**  
3 For



Maxwell/  
Maxim  
Coffee Mix  
100 Sticks  
**\$7.99**



50 Sticks  
**\$11.99**



Choco Pie  
6 Pack  
**\$1.25**



Kancho  
Chocolate  
**59¢**



Pepero  
All Flavors  
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Excellent Rice Sticks  
Golden Bihon  
500 Grams  
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20 Sticks  
**\$3.00**  
2 For  
**3.00**



20 Sticks  
**\$3.00**  
2 For  
**3.00**



Ligo Sardines  
**99¢**  
425g  
**\$1.00**  
3 For  
155g



Wheat Flour 25kg  
**\$2.65**



White Sugar  
2kg  
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Sempio  
Soysauce Jin  
**\$2.50**  
1.8l  
**\$1.25**  
930ml



Let's Bee  
Coffee Mild/  
Mocha Flavor  
**\$1.00**  
3 For  
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Coco Cool  
**89¢**



Banana  
Vegemil  
**\$8.99**  
box  
**59¢**  
each



Nestea  
Peach  
340ml  
2 Pcs for  
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Oishi  
Bread Pan  
**29¢**  
Each



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Large  
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Chum-churum  
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6000ml  
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Icis  
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**\$5.25**  
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2L  
**\$5.95**  
case  
500ml



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**\$100**  
5 Gals  
**30¢**  
1 Gal.



Luvs Diaper  
Size 3,4,5,6  
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10 Rolls  
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Butane Gas  
Buy Worth Of  
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5 Gallons  
Water Container  
(Empty)  
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## KOREAN PRODUCE



Apple



Pear



Carrots



Radish



Chinese  
Cabbage



# Opinion

## Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## EDITORIAL

### A curb on cheap charities

The following editorial appeared in the Los Angeles Times on Thursday, July 11:

**A** Michigan-based charity organization known as the Law Enforcement Education Program has spent a shockingly small amount of its money on programming over the last three years—2.7 percent to be exact—and a shockingly large amount on fundraising and management. California's Shiloh International Ministries did not do much better, spending only 3.2 percent on programs. The same can be said for the American Medical Research Organization in Florida, which spent just 4.2 percent.

Statistics like these, compiled by the Oregon Department of Justice, were the impetus for a new law making Oregon the first state to eliminate tax exemptions for charities that spend more than 70 percent on non-programming costs. After all, charities are effectively subsidized by taxpayers, who have a right to make sure that the money is not misspent or wasted. Under the law, the affected charities will not receive a local property tax exemption, and donors to 501(c) (3) charities will no longer receive a state tax deduction for contributions.

In an unusual and laudable show of bipartisan support, the measure passed unanimously in both chambers of the Oregon Legislature, with the exception of four abstentions. House Bill 2060, which is expected to affect fewer than 100 of the 17,152 charities registered in Oregon, should be replicated in statehouses throughout the country.

In general, tax exemptions for charities provide positive incentives. They encourage donations to worthwhile causes, and they allow organizations doing good to worry less about the cost of operations and more about their work. At a time when governments are cutting back, charities often play a key role in filling the gaps.

The Oregon law leaves these incentives untouched. It simply prevents taxpayers from subsidizing charities that do not spend the bulk of their funds on programming that directly benefits the public. The law even includes exceptions if a charity has a legitimate reason to allocate less than 30 percent of its funds to programming. This might occur if, for example, the organization is undergoing a capital campaign.

In the past, Oregon and other states have prohibited charities with high fundraising and management costs from soliciting donations. In 1980, the U.S. Supreme Court rightly ruled that these laws violated the 1st Amendment rights of charitable organizations. This time, however, Oregon got it right. Eliminating a mismanaged charity's tax exemption does not infringe on that organization's 1st Amendment rights. Instead, the law imposes common-sense regulations that protect the public. Other states should follow Oregon's lead.

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### Kangding love song

I was on a bus when I noticed a girl of no more than 5 years old behind me who had not stopped singing for two hours. It was a seven-hour bus ride from Chengdu to Kangding, capital of the Garze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture where I thought I might try the alpine ambience of Zang (Tibetan) country. The question is asked: When is Tibet not in Tibet? Answer: When in Sichuan. Just so we do not lose anyone, Tibetan, Zang, and Kham all mean the same in our use and are interchangeable.

Cyclists, long-distance walkers, and bus riders seemed to have taken their upland trekking seriously. On our bus were also a young couple romantically involved but without matrimonial license, limited of resource yet wanting distance from the prying eyes of mothers and aunties, a not uncommon state in this proletarian state. We struck a pedagogical tie after I discovered they were taking up law at a Chongqing U and were eager to try out their oral English. They were heading as I was to the youth hostel in Kangding, which was full, mostly of backpackers.

I located a \$20 accommodation (high end of the local offering) that did not have the Western toilet seat of the three-star foreigner-authorized hotel but abundant with water (carwash places on the road all had three rubber cubes 24/7 gushing with water), the hygiene of the squat room met our standards. Needless to say, (the squeamish might skip this sentence) the knee bending was a bit excruciating each time the Szechuan spice called for the bathroom.

As expected, the city of Kangding looked like people would yodel at the drop of a Yuan but here, they sing, and you do not even have to drop a jiao (a tenth of a ¥ coin). It did not take long to discover why. But first, the unpleasant news.

Nelson Mandela, who is completing his existential journey, fondly told of how the white man came to teach Africans how to pray, holding the Bible and teaching its message of salvation, redemption, and righteousness. So the Africans learned to pray



Kangding Love Song mural in Garze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture in Sichuan.

We found the architecture of Kangding as aesthetically designed to fit traditional Zang visual designs and colors. In the newest housing development, at the mountain end of the only two bus routes in the city is an unfinished public park built by the government, recognizing Tibetan consciousness and pride. At the center of the park is a statue of legendary and heroic Tibetan King Geser (Caesar, Tsar, Kaiser, got it?) and a mural of the Kangding "love song".

It's the city's reputation as a love song that explains why it did



By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara ([jrvergarajr2031@aol.com](mailto:jrvergarajr2031@aol.com)) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.

with closed eyes, and pretty soon, they had the Bible and the white man had the land. The same story is told of the fate of the Hawai'ians, though they did marry missionary children, so the Bishops, Campbells, and their ilk are now native Hawai'ians clamoring for land rights.

The same is true on the whole with the Zang in Kangding compared to the Han who has moved into the territory since the Kham kingdom lost to the Qing and became part of Mao's China. The sorry state of minority groups around the world, other than those of the minority but dominant political group in power, i.e., Tutsi v. Hutu, is not unique to China. In fact, that's where we found the more pleasant news. Zang culture permeates the city, and Zhongguo is intentionally promoting it.

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It's the city's reputation as a love song that explains why it did

See KANGDING on Next Page

**EDITORIAL POLICY**

**Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.**

## As trouble torches paradise

**T**he planned 25-percent cut: Impeached and disgraced former governor Benigno R. Fitial has worked long and hard, in collusion with his political cabal, to kill the retirement program. The chronology of dovetailed legislation to ensure the Fund is insolvent is a testament in itself.

This was the clear agenda of an impeached former governor lurking servile cabal to join the choir. They did and did successfully too, bankrupting the Fund.

Adding salt to injury, the Inos administration hid behind the Fund and sought court approval to cut 25 percent of retirees' pay. Again I ask: Where did he get his constitutional authority to cut payment to retirees? Why was the federal district court complicit in this case? Is it confirming that it is legal and constitutional to impair or breach contractual agreements?

For the longest time, the administration (in cahoots with the legislative cabal) has used retirees' contributions (basically a loan) for its purposes. In the process, it ignored its obligation by failing to remit employer's contribution or its share. Thus, harm has been and continues to be inflicted against the Fund, the net result being a \$371-million debt owed the Fund today.

There are retirees who feel that the proposed cut ought to be a "deferment." Let's keep it simple and let's not even toy with the term the administration finds a comfortable pillow to avoid its obligation. In fact, let's use the KISS concept by demanding this administration to pay up its debts to the Fund of some \$371 million. Doing what's right would keep the program afloat while we look for lasting answers.

Despicably appalling the willful repeal of what's known as "cor-

responding contribution" or CC by both the administration and the Legislature. The CC is money deducted from active members that is subsequently used to pay retirees. This concept is still in use by the U.S. Social Security System and federal pension program that enables payment of benefits to recipients.

What added to the confusion was the implementation of the half-cocked Defined Benefit Plan (basically a 401K deal) along with the Defined Contribution Plan (DB and DC plans).

The State of Oklahoma's pension program is \$11 billion in the red. It moved all employees from the DB plan into the DC plan. Difficult the readjustment, it is now on its way to full fiscal recovery. It's dizzying how politicians have openly accepted repeal of corresponding contribution that scaffolds the Fund. On top of the self-inflicted mess, it isn't done piling more debts against some \$740 million cumulative deficit in the books.

It doesn't make sense killing one utopia by substituting it with another, confirming "followership" rather than "leadership." Well, the dancing duet is on the floor, waltzing romantically into the night, every night, inebriated by surefire bankruptcy. This isn't our making as retirees and the only way to avoid another class action suit is for the administration to fulfill its end of the bargain.

■ ■ ■

**Farm Bill minus food stamps:** The U.S. House of Representatives approved the Farm Bill without food stamps. And so the multi-layered ideological warriors have moved in closer to the fence on Capitol Hill, brandishing placards with a myriad of conflicting messages.

The Boehner House agilely demonstrated its sound rebuke of the Senate measure when it separated food stamps and agricultural assistance. The Senate version was crafted so one sector has nexus to other provisions so designed to make untangling the two issues a difficult option. But the House was bold and brazen, sending a message to Sen. Harry Reid saying, "Not in our chamber, sir!"

Perplexing though the huge increase in food stamps under Obama's charge, feeding his redistributionist policy while shredding individual responsibility. The Senate version on immigration shifts emphasis from family oriented regulations to employment. There's merit in the legitimacy on immigration reform but the country would get nowhere when gridlock paralyzes sober reasoning.

■ ■ ■

**Egypt's turmoil:** The issue on foreign affairs is riddled with complexities beyond an islander's cranium like what's on my shoulders.

## Washington mishandles Snowden affair

**W**ashington has blundered in Latin America with its handling of the Edward Snowden affair.

Snowden, who leaked information to the Guardian and the Washington Post about the National Security Agency's domestic spying, is seeking asylum in Venezuela. But the United States doesn't want him to get there.

Privately, Washington has been pressuring Latin American countries to deny Snowden asylum and extradite him. Publicly, members of Congress and the Senate have been threatening economic and political sanctions against any country that provides Snowden asylum.

Here Latin Americans see a double standard.

For more than five years, Venezuela has sought the extradition of Luis Posada Carriles, a Cuban-born U.S. intelligence operative accused of terrorism for planting a bomb that destroyed a civilian Cuban jetliner in 1976, killing 73 people.

Unlike Snowden, Posada is not a whistleblower; he is wanted for perpetrating acts of terror. Washington continues to protect Posada Carriles and has rejected all efforts to extradite him and have him stand trial in Venezuela. Washington displayed another double standard in its egregious treatment of President Evo Morales of Bolivia.

On July 2, he was returning from a meeting of gas-producing nations held in Moscow. As his plane flew over Eastern Europe, pilots received information that access to French, Spanish, Italian and Portuguese airspace had been revoked, forcing the plane to land in Austria. With information presumably supplied by Washington that Snowden was accompanying Morales, the four European countries took the unprecedented move to close their airspace.

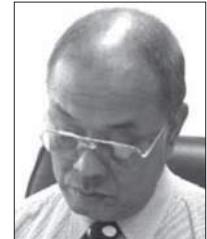
In Austria, the Spanish ambassador conditioned permission to fly over Spain with a search of the plane, which Morales refused. He remained on the ground in Vienna for more than 12 hours until the matter was resolved.

Prohibiting a democratically elected president from crossing

**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



But I can't help noticing how our country has landed in Egypt in much the same way as Asiana's SF flight that came in at very slow speed. Isn't the pilot supposed to take over and rev up the engine to deal with drastic cross drafts or the need to overfly the runway in an emergency?

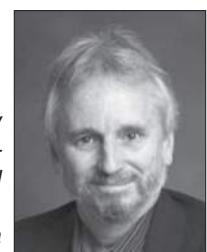
We wanted democracy transplanted in Egypt and other Middle Eastern countries, lamely predicated on the claim of "national interest." Isn't it about oil that belongs to the people of Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Iran, and others? Is it hard trading with these countries? Why advance the "arrogance" of "national interest" when the oil belongs to these countries?

The turmoil in Egypt is a perfect example that democracy isn't going to work. We supported Morsi who hailed from the Muslim Brotherhood, elected via the democratic process. His disenchanted people forced him out of office. Yet, we try to support rebels who instigated the people revolution without critical review who among them are simultaneously attached to jihadis and Islamists groups whose only agenda is to destroy our country and people.

A tertiary intelligence study is needed to map out if our plan is realistic given that their conviction is founded at the religious level far removed from the ideology of the West. I mean if jihadis have only one thing in mind: To meet Allah after they've inflicted death and destruction against our citizens at the global village, is there a way to we could convince them otherwise?

■ ■ ■

**Medicine:** Interesting the purpose of medicine. Isn't it supposed to heal illnesses? Or has medicine taken a turn to bow to the whims of pharmaceutical giants that places profit over healing the sick? It's a question that I find troubling from A-Z. Definitely, there's nothing that medicine could do to resolve genetic predisposition. But even with this how do we approach it to lessen its severity among the indigenous people?



**By MIGUEL TINKER SALAS**

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

*Miguel Tinker Salas is a professor of history and Latin American studies at Pomona College in Claremont, Calif., and the author and editor of a number of books on Latin America. He wrote this for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with The Progressive magazine.*

airspace is a blatant violation of international protocol. The outcry and punitive action would have been swift if any country had prohibited President Obama or any European head of state from crossing their air space.

In fact, it simply would not happen. Imagine if Bolivia had tried to ground Air Force One.

Yet, Latin American leaders are still treated with disdain by Europe and the United States.

Within hours, every government of Latin America, including U.S. allies Mexico and Colombia, condemned the treatment of Morales. An emergency meeting of the Union of South American Nations denounced the rogue behavior of the Europeans. The Organization of American States, usually reluctant to criticize the United States or Europe, voted to "condemn actions that violated basic rules and principles of international law."

Today, because of its heavy-handed tactics in the Snowden affair, the United States is more isolated than ever in Latin America.

Washington can no longer bully its way in this hemisphere. It needs to adopt a more mature policy toward its neighbors, one that treats them with respect—not arrogance.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### A couple questions

Questions about the proposed bill on \$3 fee for The Grotto: Has any consideration been made for collections? How much will it cost to administer the system? Will the locals be charged or just tourists?

**Del Benson**  
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

### KANGDING

From Page 10

not take much for the young girl on the bus to keep singing. The first line of the song is characteristic Zang: "Horses are running the mountains, a cloud in the sky." King Geser's huge statue is mounted on a horse holding on to his lady who in the epic is his wife he rescues from an abduction. Exceptional horse riding is a boasted Kham skill, as it is with their cousins, the Mongols and Manchus!

The crescent moon is mystical love in Chinese symbology. The second line in the song: "Shining over the city of Kangding, the crescent moon, the city of Kangding," makes the city and the moon synonymous.

"The elder daughter of the Li family is talented and good-looking. The elder son of the Zhang family has fallen in love with her. The crescent moon has fallen in love with her!" runs the next line. By the end of the song, it is not whether we are clear who loves who but whether the singer is a lover, the loving eventually redounding to "care of the family."

At the park, we watched a couple of young kids emotionally hit the deep gorge. They were not Li and Zhang; they were more like the tormented young from the Houses of Capulet and Montague. In this instance, barely past puberty Juliet is Zang, young Romeo is Han. Their respective families disapprove of their liaison. Romeo was in tears while Juliet was stoic. (How we learned all of these requires another telling.)

T'was the young girl's singing on the bus, and a Kenny G rendition of a Chinese tune *Autumn Breeze* to which we put words to and sing in our Oral English class, that made us break into song. The Kangding love song ends with: "World's girls, let me love you. World's boys, let you reach after me. The crescent moon, let you reach after me!"

Will put new English words to the Tibetan song next term. Meanwhile, if any aspiring linguist can locate what *liulude* mean, we'll get your name printed on this page!

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.pr.noaa.gov/guam/

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly sunny. East wind 8 to 11 mph.	Partly sunny. Southeast wind 7 to 9 mph.	Partly sunny.	Partly sunny.	Mostly sunny.

▲ 88° ▾ 79°

▲ 87° ▾ 79°

▲ 88° ▾ 78°

▲ 88° ▾ 77°

▲ 88° ▾ 77°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 89	▼ 80
Palau	Showers	▲ 86	▼ 75
Yap	Showers	▲ 90	▼ 76
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 88	▼ 79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 75
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 75
Majuro	Showers	▲ 85	▼ 80

### Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲ 52	▼ 46
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲ 77	▼ 70
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 87	▼ 82
Honolulu	Sunny	▲ 84	▼ 73
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83	▼ 62
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 84	▼ 66
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 90	▼ 79
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 64	▼ 48
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 86	▼ 77
New York	Showers	▲ 88	▼ 75
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲ 88	▼ 77
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83	▼ 63
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲ 82	▼ 75
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲ 86	▼ 67
Salem	Sunny	▲ 87	▼ 54
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 63	▼ 54
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲ 81	▼ 75
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲ 86	▼ 74
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 89	▼ 75

### Tides

### Sunrise/Sunset

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:55 AM	6:51 PM	Today	11:23 AM	11:29 PM
Tuesday	5:55 AM	6:51 PM	Tuesday	12:16 PM	
Wednesday	5:55 AM	6:51 PM	Wednesday	1:12 PM	12:14 AM
Thursday	5:55 AM	6:51 PM	Thursday	2:11 PM	1:03 AM
Friday	5:56 AM	6:51 PM	Friday	3:13 PM	1:56 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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#### ISLAND SNAPSHOT

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

#### BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

#### BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

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Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

#### TRAVERLOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

#### CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 23, 2013

### DEPARTURES

#### SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily

### ARRIVALS

#### GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily

#### ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6

#### SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily

#### SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7
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#### BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
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#### SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

#### SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

## NEW CLUB TO CHARTER ON SAIPAN

# Soroptimist Club to undertake projects helping women, girls

Organizers of a new Soroptimist Club announced Friday that they will hold an informational meeting on Thursday, July 18, 2013 at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, from 12pm to 1pm. The club is open to business and professional women who are looking for opportunities to improve the lives of women and girls in the local community and throughout the world.

The club will be part of Soroptimist International of the

Americas, an international volunteer organization for business and professional women with almost 40,000 members in 19 countries and territories. Soroptimists volunteer their talents and energy to help women and girls live their dreams every day by giving them the resources to create positive change—for themselves, their families and

## » Informational meeting to be held on July 18, 2013

their communities. The Soroptimist mission is exemplified by its major project, the Soroptimist Women's Opportunity Awards. Each year Soroptimist gives over \$1.5 million to women who need to improve their job skills through education and training. Most are single moms and many are domestic violence survivors.

The club is being organized by Jessica Castro, president of the Guam-based Soroptimist International of the Marianas, who said members of the new Saipan club will determine its areas of service based on community needs.

Soroptimist projects range from renovating domestic violence shelters, to providing mammograms to low-income women, to sponsoring self-esteem workshops for teen-

age girls.

"The Saipan club will offer opportunities to participate in programs that change lives, as well as to develop lifelong friendships and a network of

business contacts," said Castro. "The name 'Soroptimist' means 'Best For Women,' and that's what our club will strive to achieve." (*Soroptimist Club*)

## MHS closed on July 16-19

Marianas High School will be closed for business on July 16-19, 2013, due to the Pacific Education Conference. During this week, there will be no registration, report card distribution, or transcript request. Business will resume as usual on July 22, 2013.

Registration for new/transfer students have begun and will continue through July 31, 2013.

Parents/guardians need to submit the following: completed registration form; copy of diploma (if applicable); copy of birth

certificate; official transcript; health certificate; medical insurance; proof of village residency (for zoning purposes)

MHS zones include Puerto Rico, Navy Hill, Garapan, Oleai, Chalan Kiya, Kanat Tabla, Chalan Kanoa, Susupe, North of Mobil in Chalan Piao, Lower Dandan, San Vicente, As Perido, and As Lito.

For more information, call the Main Office at 237-3206 or the Registrar's Office at 237-3205. (MHS)

## USCG, Marshalls conduct search and rescue exercise in Oceania



USCG

The 14th Coast Guard District conducted an international search and rescue exercise with the Republic of the Marshall Islands on Tuesday as part of a U.S. Navy led operation called Operation Pacific Partnership 2013.

As part of the exercise, the Coast Guard partnered with the Marshall Islands Marine Resource Authority, Marshall Islands Sea Patrol, Australian Maritime Security Advisor, and U.S. Embassy Majuro to validate newly drafted international SAR procedures between the 14th District and the Marshall Islands.

A MIMRA vessel was set adrift between Majuro Atoll and Anro Island to simulate an overdue vessel and the RMI Sea Patrol began search planning and making official SAR assistance requests through the U.S. Embassy for a search action plan. Joint Rescue Coordination Center Honolulu provided search areas for the RMIS LO-

The 14th Coast Guard District conducted an international search and rescue exercise with the Republic of the Marshall Islands on Tuesday as part of a U.S. Navy led operation called Operation Pacific Partnership 2013.

MOR, a Pacific Patrol Boat, using Search and Rescue Optimal Planning System derived drifts and the exercise was successfully concluded.

SAROPS is a software sys-

tem that uses simulated particles generated by users in a graphical interface to calculate search areas.

A forward deployed 14th District SAR subject matter expert worked alongside RMI Sea Pa-

trol personnel employing new SAR procedures.

"The purpose of the exercise was to examine existing SAR policies and procedures, as well as validate a newly drafted SAR guideline for cooperation between the U.S. Coast Guard and the Republic of the Marshall Islands," said Lt. Cmdr. Michael Jackson, District 14 Command Center and Joint Rescue Coordination Center Chief. "Additionally, District 14 deployed a specialized team to train the RMI Sea Patrol in SAR mission planning, coordination and communications. This exercise served to build SAR response capacity through successful integration of operations between the U.S. Coast Guard, the US Embassy in Majuro and RMI national officials." (USCG)

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



This is to inform the public that **MR. FROLAN MENDIOLA CAMACHO** whose picture appears here is no longer connected with Western Sales Trading Company (WSTCO) effective July 11, 2013.

Any transaction(s) made by him will NOT be honored by the Management.

### Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



#### INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-13-021



##### CONSTRUCTION OF 300K GALLON TANK REPLACEMENT FOR PAPAGO TANK

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of a 300K Gallon Tank Replacement for Papago Tank for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

*This project is funded by a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.*

The selected firm shall have experience in construction and design of pre-stressed concrete and/or welded steel water storage tanks. The work consists of demolition of the existing glass-fused, steel bolted 0.50 million gallon tank and its foundation; construction of the new 300K gallon tank as per approved design, foundation, tank appurtenances, and yard piping and connections.

The project is to be completed in 300 calendar days from date of contract award.

The Bid Tender Documents may be secured, upon receipt of payment by the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card of \$100.00. The payment is non-refundable. The payment receipt shall be presented to the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on July 11, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST), at the CUC Safety & Compliance Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 14, Joeten Dandan, Commercial Building.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This Invitation for Bids and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

**One (1) original and Five (5) copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-13-021, Construction of 300K Gallon Tank Replacement for Papago Tank" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 6, 2013**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Insufficient copies of bid submitted can be subject to technical default and rejection of bid.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred percent (100%) and a Performance Bond of one hundred percent (100%) of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. For the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract, the Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurer questions, concerns and qualification shall be governed by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code. Please refer to other bidding requirements described in Section 002113 - Instructions to Bidders.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on July 19, 2013 to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Procurement & Supply Manager, via email [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to John Riegel, Water/Wastewater, Chief Engineer via email [john.riegel@cucgov.org](mailto:john.riegel@cucgov.org) & Christi Lazaro, Water Division Assistant Engineer via email [christi.lazaro@cucgov.org](mailto:christi.lazaro@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation.

ALAN FLETCHER  
Acting Executive Director

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Summer school closed this week

Attention Kagman High, Marianas High School, and Saipan Southern High School: Due to Pacific Education Conference Week, classes for summer school will be closed the whole week of July 15-19. Classes will resume on July 22 from 8am-12pm. For more information, call the KHS Main Office at 237-3834 or 3907. (PR)

### Military training at Warning Area 517, FDM

**SANTA RITA, GUAM**—The U.S. Coast Guard will conduct training at Warning Area 517 July 15 from 8am to noon. The U.S. Air Force will conduct training at Warning Area 517 during the following dates and times:

- July 15: noon to 4pm
- July 16-17: 10am to 2pm
- July 18: 10am to 1pm
- The U.S. Marines and U.S. Navy will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on July 15-19, from 10am to 11:59pm and during the following dates and times:

- Navy: July 16-19: from 12:01am to 2am
- Marines: July 20: 10am to 10pm
- Marines: July 21: 10am to

1pm and 2:30pm to 5pm

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of air-space that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. (PR)

### Free Friday child-friendly films at AMP

The American Memorial Park presents family-friendly films every Friday at 2pm in the Visitors Center auditorium. Come to the park and enjoy! From July to August, the featured films are *UP*, *How To Train Your Dragon*, *Meet the Robinsons*, *Robots*, *Dinosaurs*, *Shrek*, and *Toy Story 3*. (PR)

Tickets for this event are priced at \$25 per person and come with beer, wine, a variety of tasty hors d'oeuvres, and a chance to win an autographed copy of Kluge's latest novel, *The Master Blaster*.

Tickets may be purchased from council board members and staff or at the council's office in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai. The American Memorial Park presents a free art class called

# Fiesta hosts Family Fun Day for employees' families



Resident Manager Abner Acosta is shown here cooking with Chef Edwin and Chef Elmer.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The light drizzle did not dampen the spirits of families and guests of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan employees as they arrived at the resort's beach side to attend Fiesta's Family Fun Day on July 7, a Sunday.

This was the first time for Fiesta employees and their families and guests to have their Family Fun Day at the resort property. Resident manager Abner Acosta wanted the employees and their families and guests to experience "the Fiesta Way" on the resort property.

Family Fun Day began at 9am with Acosta giving short remarks to welcome the families, guests, and employees.

"This Fun Day is one way of acknowledging the dedication, loyalty, and hard work of our Fiesta employees," he said. "Without your support and continued service excellence to our guests, we will not be as successful as we are today. Thank you."

And a fun day it was! There were games and activities for children and adults, raffle prizes drawn throughout the day,

and a dance number from the employees as well as from the employees' children, who were joined by Elena Soll, public relations manager. The food served that day was not to be outdone. Aside from mouthwatering barbecue, there was also fun food such as cotton candy, nachos, popcorn, and halo-halo. Happy the Clown and a bouncing house brought smiles and excitement to the children attending the Fun Day.

Everyone was allowed to use the swimming pools, although some decided to venture out to the pristine beachfront property to swim at the beach.

One employee said: "It's the first time that my family and I felt like guests of the hotel using the swimming pool, served special food, wearing simple clothes with slippers and we liked that very much!"

Another employee said: "The Family Fun Day is really fun! For my nine years in this hotel, this is the first time that I experienced this kind of event held at the hotel for employees and their families as well. This is a



Chopsticks picking Skittles contest.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Kids join the 'Face the Cookie' game with their moms.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Fiesta's Cheering Squad members Nelma Sadian, Jane Maliwanag, May Alegre, Darlin Catagatan, Cecilia Puserio, and Margie Palad perform "Fireworks" by Adele.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Children enjoy playing at the Kid's Pool.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Apple dance with Ayra and May.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Winners with Happy the Clown.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



More kids enjoy playing at the Kid's Pool.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Everyone enjoyed hamburgers, hotdogs, barbecue and spaghetti.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Fiesta staff and family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

# Business

## A.M. Best upgrades credit rating of Century Insurance Guam

**HONG KONG**—A.M. Best Asia-Pacific Limited has upgraded the issuer credit rating to “bbb+” from “bbb” and affirmed the financial strength rating of B++ (Good) of Century Insurance Company (Guam) Ltd. The outlook for the ICR has been revised to



### YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

*Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of Secrets to Winning at Office Politics. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.*

## Neutralize colleague's one-upmanship

**Q**UESTION: I have an older co-worker who constantly tries to prove that he's smarter than I am. “Tom” never went to college, while I have an advanced degree. Although I never mention my education, he brings it up all the time.

Because we work in a scientific field, Tom likes to search for obscure pieces of information and quiz me about them. If I don't know the answer, he says, “Well, you're the one that went to college.” But if I do know the answer, he immediately goes online to find a way to contradict me.

These ridiculous debates are a complete waste of time. Even though I spent six years of my life studying this field, Tom will never accept anything I say. I am so frustrated that I have considered complaining to our boss. Do you have any other suggestions?

**ANSWER:** Although you probably don't realize it, you are actually encouraging Tom's childish behavior. In the language of office politics, your insecure colleague is playing a “superiority game.” Superiority players compensate for feelings of inadequacy by trying to appear more important or informed than others.

The best way to shut down such a game is simply to stop playing. Since Tom's underlying objective is to aggravate you, expressing annoyance or engaging in pointless arguments will only motivate him to continue. Therefore, you must break this communication pattern by switching to a neutral response.

For example, when Tom points out that you went to college, just reply, “That's true.” If he contradicts you, say, “That's an interesting point.” Then drop the subject. Should you unwittingly become trapped in a verbal contest, end the interaction by saying, “We could probably debate this for a long time, but I have to get back to work.”

The secret to success is delivering all these comments calmly and with a smile. To reduce your irritation, keep reminding yourself that Tom's obvious insecurity is actually rather pathetic. Once his verbal jabs stop producing the desired result, he will eventually abandon the game because it will no longer be rewarding.

Finally, please resist the urge to take this petty complaint to your boss. Managers need to deal with business problems, not personal squabbles. Besides, if you report that Tom is annoying you by trying to act superior, you will sound exactly like a tattling 10-year-old.

**Q: Our new manager said that I look like the Wendy's hamburger girl because of my red hair. I didn't know what she meant, so I emailed a co-worker and said “I think this manager is crazy. Who is Wendy?”**

**My co-worker showed the email to our boss, who came to my desk and asked why I thought she was crazy. Is the lesson that you should not share your thoughts with co-workers?**

**A:** There are actually three lessons here. Don't share personal opinions with colleagues who have no common sense. Don't ever put negative remarks about others in an email. And finally, if you ever become a manager, don't make idiotic observations about your employees' physical attributes.

stable from positive, while the outlook for the FSR is stable. A.M. Best also has affirmed the FSR of B+ (Good) and ICR of “bbb-” of Century Insurance Company Ltd. (CIC Saipan) in Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The outlook for these

rating is stable. CIC Guam's ratings reflect its solid risk-based capitalization, continuous profitable operating results and the support it receives from its parent company, Tan Holdings Corp., in terms of capital injections. CIC Guam's capitalization level has substantially improved since the additional capital injection of \$5 million from THC in 2010. The company's favorable operating results in the last three years have further enhanced its capital position. CIC Guam's risk-adjusted capitalization, as measured by Best's Capital Adequacy Ratio, is solid and supportive of its current ratings.

CIC Guam has recorded positive operating results every year since its inception in 2006. The company's underwriting profits are mainly attributed to its favorable loss experience as demonstrated by a five-year average loss ratio of 32 percent. Since CIC Guam diversified its investment portfolio in 2011, the company has made noticeable improvements in its investment results. In terms of catastrophe management, CIC Guam has been extensively utilizing reinsurance programs to mitigate its inherent catastrophe exposures.

Offsetting rating factors include CIC Guam's high expense ratio, large balance

of overdue insurance receivables and volatile loss reserve development.

CIC Guam maintains a relatively high expense ratio and a large amount of overdue insurance receivables relative to other insurers in the region. CIC Guam's management continues to look into various means of cost savings and is working with its general agents to reduce days in receivables.

CIC Guam's loss reserve development has been volatile since its inception as evidenced by reserve redundancies in its first two years of operation and deficiencies in its following three years. A.M. Best will closely monitor the company's reserving practices going forward.

Positive rating actions could occur if CIC Guam can continue to improve its expense management and reduce days in receivables, and at the same time, demonstrate profitable operating results and maintain a solid risk-adjusted capitalization level.

Conversely, negative rating actions could occur if there is a material decline in the company's risk-based capitalization level or a significant deterioration in its operating performance.

### CIC Saipan

CIC Saipan's ratings acknowl-

edge its adequate risk-adjusted capitalization and leading position in the non-life insurance market in CNMI. Additionally, the ratings also acknowledge the support it receives from THC.

CIC Saipan's risk-based capitalization, as measured by BCAR, is adequate to support its ratings. Given its modest business projections, the company's capitalization level is expected to remain adequate in the near term.

As the first full-fledged insurance company in the CNMI, CIC Saipan maintains its market leadership position on the island. In recent years, the withdrawal of some competitors from the CNMI market also has strengthened the company's dominant position in the market.

Offsetting rating factors include CIC Saipan's volatile underwriting results, unfavorable loss reserve development and the economic downturn in Saipan.

CIC Saipan's underwriting performance has been volatile in the past five years, partly due to the relatively small size of its insurance book. In 2012, the company recorded an underwriting loss due to several large fires on the island. In addition, CIC Saipan's loss reserve development has shown an unfavorable trend in the past three years as evidenced

by its reserve deficiencies.

Upward rating actions could occur if CIC Saipan is able to reduce the volatility in its loss experience and report profitable underwriting results, as well as maintain its adequate risk-adjusted capitalization level.

Conversely, negative rating actions could occur if the company's risk-adjusted capitalization declines to a level below A.M. Best's expectations or if its operating performance deteriorates significantly.

The methodology used in determining these interactive ratings is Best's Credit Rating Methodology, which provides a comprehensive explanation of A.M. Best's rating process and contains the different rating criteria employed in the rating process. Best's Credit Rating Methodology can be found at [www.ambest.com/ratings/methodology](http://www.ambest.com/ratings/methodology).

Ratings are communicated to rated entities prior to publication, and unless stated otherwise, the ratings were not amended subsequent to that communication.

A.M. Best Asia-Pacific Limited is a subsidiary of A.M. Best Company. A.M. Best Company is the world's oldest and most authoritative insurance rating and information source. For more information, visit [www.ambest.com](http://www.ambest.com). (**BUSINESS WIRE**)

## US-EU trade talks a wrap; discussion moves to Brussels

By ROB HOTAKAINEN  
MCCLATCHY WASHINGTON BUREAU

**WASHINGTON**—As they concluded their first round of trade talks in Washington on Friday, chief negotiators for the United States and the European Union said they'd made good progress this week and announced plans for a second round in Brussels the week of Oct. 7.

“We are very optimistic about our prospects,” Dan Mullaney, the chief U.S. negotiator, said at the White House Conference Center as the two sides wrapped up five days of meetings.

Despite a long list of thorny issues that they pledge to resolve, negotiators hope to finalize a new trade deal, which would rank as the largest in history, by the end of next year.

Ignacio Garcia-Bercero, the EU's chief negotiator, said the negotiations had “the strongest level of political commitment” in the European Union.

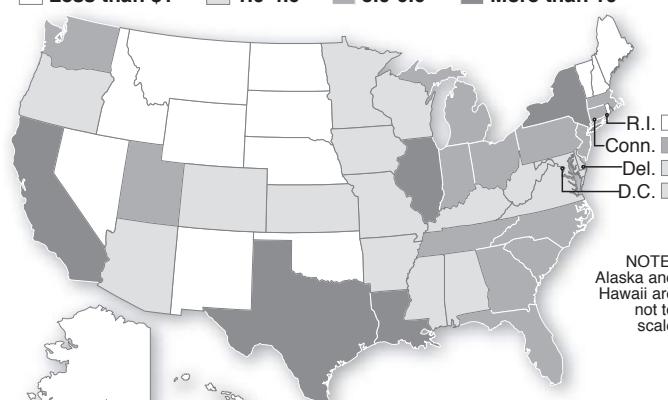
“We have paved the way for an intensive process of negotiations,” he said, adding that negotiators on both sides hope to produce a pact “that will be transformative for our economies.”

Mullaney said negotiators

### Exports to the European Union

In 2012, the U.S. exported \$265.4 billion in goods to the European Union. How the states rank on exports to the EU, in billions:

Less than \$1    1.0-4.9    5.0-9.9    More than 10

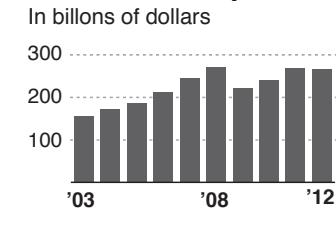


#### About the EU

- Began after WWII with six nations, now 28 belong
- U.S. is EU's most important trading partner; proposed Trans-Atlantic Free Trade Area to be discussed at G8 summit

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, European Union Graphic: Judy Treble

#### A decade of U.S. exports to EU



had spent the first week walking through a long list of topics they intend to cover in future meetings, including electronic commerce, agriculture, environmental, food and labor issues, energy, intellectual property rights, investment and procure-

ment, regulation and ways to resolve disputes, among others.

One topic he said they didn't discuss: spying.

Last week, the French government argued for suspending the talks temporarily in response to news reports that

the U.S. government had been spying on European countries. But Mullaney said no surveillance issues were discussed at the trade talks.

“Those conversations are taking place in another channel,” he said.

Some of the biggest differences between the two sides center on food issues, with many Europeans objecting to U.S. genetically modified products and meat injected with hormones.

Asked whether there was any indication this week that Europe is ready to relax its food-safety rules, Garcia-Bercero offered no direct answer. But he said the European Union had discussed genetically modified foods with the United States in the past and that it was “a conversation that we will be ready to continue.”

Michael Froman, the U.S. trade representative, who was sworn in last month, said earlier that a new trade pact could produce billions of dollars in new U.S. exports.

The proposed pact has drawn criticism from opponents, who worry that negotiators will try to weaken consumer-protection laws to help businesses and corporations increase their profits.

# Nation

## Zimmerman cleared in shooting of Trayvon Martin

**SANFORD, Florida** (AP)— Neighborhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman was cleared of all charges in the shooting of Trayvon Martin, the unarmed black teenager whose killing unleashed furious debate across the U.S. over racial profiling, self-defense and equal justice.

Zimmerman, 29, blinked and barely smiled when the verdict was announced Saturday night. He could have been convicted of second-degree murder or manslaughter. But the jury of six women, all but one of them white, reached a verdict of not guilty after deliberating more than 15 hours over the course of two days.

Martin's mother and father were not in the courtroom when the verdict was read; supporters of his family who had gathered outside yelled "No! No!" upon learning of the not-guilty verdict.

The teen's father, Tracy, reacted on Twitter: "Even though I am broken hearted my faith is unshattered I WILL ALWAYS LOVE MY BABY TRAY."

Trayvon Martin's brother, Jahvaris Fulton, said simply: "Et tu America?"—a reference to the Latin phrase "Et tu, Brute?" known as an expression of betrayal.

The jurors considered nearly three weeks of often wildly conflicting testimony over who was the aggressor on the rainy night the 17-year-old was shot while walking through the gated townhouse community where he was staying and where Zimmerman lived. None of the witnesses who were called had a clear view of their encounter.

Defense attorneys said the case was classic self-defense, claiming Martin knocked Zimmerman down and was slamming the older man's head against the concrete sidewalk when Zimmerman fired his gun.

"We're ecstatic with the results," defense attorney Mark O'Mara after the verdict. "George Zimmerman was never guilty of anything except protecting himself in self-defense."

Another member of his defense team, Don West, said he was "thrilled this jury kept this tragedy from becoming a travesty."

Prosecutors called Zimmerman a liar and portrayed him as a "wannabe cop" vigilante who had grown frustrated by break-ins in his neighborhood committed primarily by young black men. Zimmerman assumed Martin was up to no good and took the law into his own hands, prosecutors said.

State Attorney Angela Corey said after the verdict that she believed second-degree murder was the appropriate charge because Zimmerman's



AP

This combo image made from file photos shows Trayvon Martin, left, and George Zimmerman.

mindset "fit the bill of second-degree murder."

"We charged what we believed we could prove," Corey said.

The jurors' names have not been made public, and they declined to speak to the news media.

As the verdict drew near, police and city leaders in the Orlando suburb of Sanford and other parts of Florida said they were taking precautions against the possibility of mass protests or unrest in the event of an acquittal.

Martin family attorney Benjamin Crump acknowledged the disappointment of Trayvon Martin's supporters, ranking the teen alongside civil rights heroes Medgar Evers and Emmett Till in the history of the fight for equal justice.

But he urged them not to resort to violence.

"For Trayvon to rest in peace, we must all be peaceful," he said.

O'Mara, Zimmerman's attorney, said his client is aware he has to be cautious and protective of his safety.

"There still is a fringe element that wants revenge," O'Mara said. "They won't listen to a verdict of not guilty."

The verdict came a year and a half after civil rights protesters angrily demanded Zimmerman be prosecuted. That anger appeared to return Saturday night outside the courthouse, at least for some who had been following the case.

Rosie Barron, 50, and Andrew Perkins, 55, both black residents of Sanford, stood in the parking lot of the courthouse and wept.

"I at least thought he was going to get something, something," Barron said.

Added her brother: "How the hell did they find him not guilty?"

Perkins was so upset he was shaking. "He killed somebody and got away with murder,"

Perkins shouted, looking in the direction of the courthouse. "He ain't getting no probation or nothing."

Issuing a statement from New York, civil rights leader the Rev. Al Sharpton called the not-guilty verdict "a slap in the face to the American people but it is only the first round in the pursuit of justice."

"We intend to ask the Department of Justice to move forward as they did in the Rodney King case and we will closely monitor the civil case against Mr. Zimmerman," Sharpton said, adding that he will travel to Florida in the next few days.

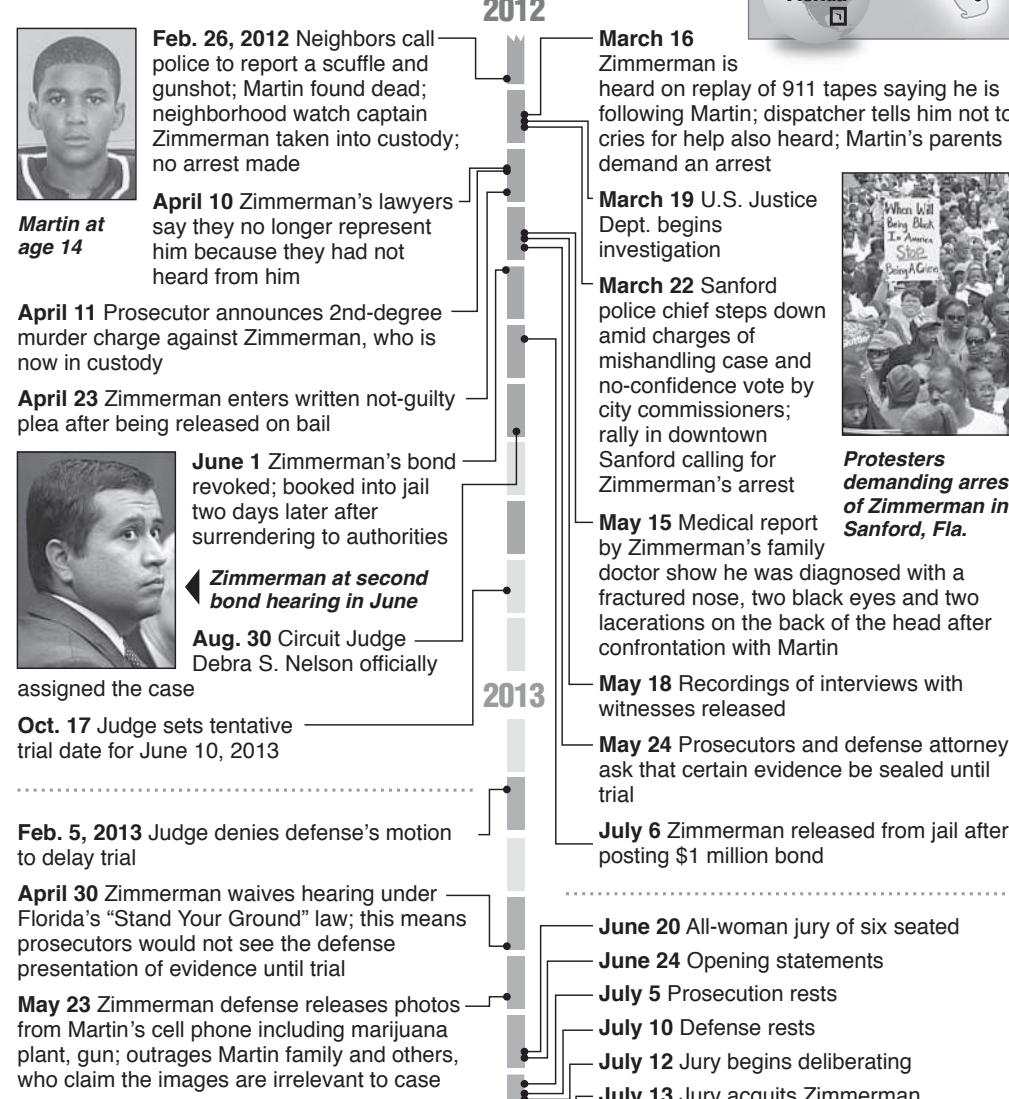
Several Zimmerman supporters also were outside the courthouse, including a brother and sister quietly rejoicing that Zimmerman was acquitted.

Both thought the jury made the right decision in finding Zimmerman not guilty—they felt that Zimmerman killed Martin in self-defense.

Cindy Lenzen, 50, of

### Timeline of Zimmerman case

*It has been more than 16 months since 17-year-old Trayvon Martin was shot by George Zimmerman while walking in a gated community in Sanford, Fla., where his father lived. The six-person jury in Zimmerman's trial decided the shooting was justifiable for Zimmerman's self-defense, that he was not guilty of second degree murder or manslaughter.*



Source: Reuters, AP, ABC News, MCT Photo Service

Casslebury, and her brother, 52-year-old Chris Bay, stood watching the protesters chant slogans such as, "the whole system's guilty."

Lenzen and Bay—who are white—called the entire case "a tragedy," especially for Zimmerman.

"It's a tragedy that he's going to suffer for the rest of his life," Bay said. "No one wins either way. This is going to be a recurring nightmare in his mind every night."

Meanwhile, authorities in Martin's hometown of Miami said the streets were quiet, with no indication of problems. The neighborhood where Martin's father lives in Miami Gardens was equally quiet.

Zimmerman wasn't arrested for 44 days after the Feb. 26, 2012, shooting as police in Sanford insisted that Florida's Stand Your Ground law on self-defense prohibited them from bringing charges. Florida gives people wide latitude to use deadly force if they fear death or bodily harm.

Martin's parents, along with civil rights leaders such as Sharpton and the Rev. Jesse Jackson, argued that Zimmerman—who identifies himself as Hispanic—had racially

profiled their son. And they accused investigators of dragging their feet because Martin was a black teenager.

Before a special prosecutor assigned to the case ordered Zimmerman's arrest, thousands of protesters gathered in Sanford, Miami, New York and elsewhere, many wearing hoodies like the one Martin had on the night he died. They also carried Skittles and a can of iced tea, items Martin had in his pocket. President Barack Obama weighed in, saying that if he had a son, "he'd look like Trayvon."

Despite the racially charged nature of the case, race was barely mentioned at the trial.

"This case has never been about race or the right to bear arms," Corey said. "We believe this case all along was about boundaries, and George Zimmerman exceeded those boundaries."

One of the few mentions of race came from witness Rachel Jeantel, the Miami teen who was talking to Martin by phone moments before he was shot. She testified that he described being followed by a "creepy-ass cracker" as he walked through the neighborhood.

Jeantel gave some of the trial's most riveting testimony. She said she overheard Martin demand, "What are you following me for?" and then yell, "Get off! Get off!" before his cellphone went dead.

The jurors had to sort out clashing testimony from 56 witnesses in all, including police, neighbors, friends and family members.

For example, witnesses who got fleeting glimpses of the fight in the darkness gave differing accounts of who was on top. And Martin's parents and Zimmerman's parents both claimed that the person heard screaming for help in the background of a neighbor's police call was their son. Numerous other relatives and friends weighed in, too, as the recording was played over and over in court. Zimmerman had cuts and scrapes on his face and the back of his head, but prosecutors suggested the injuries were not serious.

To secure a second-degree murder conviction, prosecutors had to convince the jury that Zimmerman acted with a "depraved" state of mind—that is, with ill will, hatred or spite. Prosecutors said he demonstrated that when he muttered, "F--- punks. These a-----. They always get away" during a call to police as he watched Martin walk through his neighborhood.

To win a manslaughter conviction, prosecutors had to convince the jury only that Zimmerman killed without lawful justification.

# Asia

## Asiana says TV station damaged its reputation

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**—Asiana Airlines said Sunday its reputation was damaged by a report on a San Francisco TV station that used bogus and racially offensive names for four pilots on its plane that crashed earlier this month and is considering legal action.

An anchor for KTVU-TV read the names on the air Friday and then apologized after a break. The report was accompanied by a graphic with the phony names listed alongside a photo of the burned out plane. Video of the report has spread widely across the Internet since it was broadcast.

The National Transportation Safety Board has also apologized, saying a summer intern erroneously confirmed the names of the flight crew.

An Asiana statement said it's mulling legal measures against both KTVU-TV and the NTSB because the report "badly damaged" the reputation of the airline.



and its pilots.

It didn't say what legal measures it was considering.

Neither the station nor the NTSB commented on where the names originated.

The four pilots, who underwent questioning by a U.S. and South Korean joint investigation team while in the U.S., returned to South Korea on Saturday. South Korean officials plan to conduct separate interviews with them, South Korea's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport said Sunday.

Asiana Airlines Flight 214 crashed at San Francisco International Airport on July 6, killing three and injuring dozens.

In this Saturday, July 6, 2013 aerial photo, firefighters, lower center, stand by a tarpaulin sheet covering the body of a Chinese teen struck by a fire truck during the emergency response to the crash of Asiana Flight 214 at the San Francisco International Airport in San Francisco. AP

## Philippine army-rebel clash leaves 7 dead

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—Members of a breakaway Muslim guerrilla faction attacked government troops Saturday, triggering a firefight that killed two soldiers and five guerrillas as negotiators from the government and the main rebel group were holding talks in Malaysia, the military said.

About 20 gunmen belonging to the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters ambushed the soldiers on a military truck in southern Maguindanao prov-

ince's Guindulungan township, about 900 kilometers (560 miles) south of Manila, said regional military spokesman Col. Dickson Hermoso.

Hermoso said the firefight that erupted lasted about 15 minutes before the guerrillas withdrew with troops in pursuit.

The military said the same group launched attacks last week in Maguindanao and nearby North Cotabato province to undermine ongoing peace talks.

Five soldiers and at least 25 guerrillas were killed then.

Malaysia is brokering the negotiations to end the decades-long rebellion led by the 11,000-strong Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

The renegade guerrillas broke off from the main rebel front two years ago. The faction, led by Ameril Umra Kato, has rejected the talks, saying the negotiations have gone nowhere, and has vowed to continue fighting

Negotiators signed a preliminary peace agreement in October. Saturday's meeting in Kuala Lumpur was to cap this week's talks meant to reach an agreement on sharing the wealth of the resource-rich southern region, but the two sides could not immediately settle on an acceptable formula.

## Trapped Vietnamese tourists reach Chinese town

**BEIJING (AP)**—A group of Vietnamese tourists who became trapped by a landslide amid deadly weeklong storms that have killed at least 86 people have reached a major town, state media reported Sunday.

At least 100 tourists, including the 38 Vietnamese, became trapped Friday night in the northwest province of Gansu after a landslide cut off traffic, China's official Xinhua News Agency said. They were en route to a nature reserve in Sichuan province, which has been

hit the hardest by the storms, and had reached accommodation by later that night following road repair work to free them.

They finally arrived in the central city of Xi'an on Sunday morning, but have canceled their travel plans, Xinhua said, citing local authorities. A man on duty at Xi'an city government Sunday said he had no information to share. The whereabouts of the remaining tourists was unknown.

Sichuan has reported at least 48 storm-related deaths over

the past week. A massive mudslide that struck a scenic resort outside the city of Dujiangyan in Sichuan on Wednesday killed 43 people, the ruling Communist Party's People's Daily said Saturday.

An entire hillside collapsed onto clusters of holiday cottages where city dwellers escape summer heat, a survivor told Xinhua.

Flooding in Sichuan was the worst in 50 years for some areas, with more than 220,000 people forced to evacuate.

Mudslides and flooding are common in China's mountainous areas, killing hundreds of people every year, but in some areas the current floods are already the worst in half a century.

In the northwest province of Shaanxi, 23 people died in landslides or house collapses. At least 12 workers were killed in the northern province of Shanxi when a violent rainstorm collapsed an unfinished coal mine workshop. Another three people were drowned in a car in Hebei province outside Beijing.

### Powerful typhoon downgraded in China

**BEIJING (AP)**—Typhoon Soulik has been downgraded to a storm after forcing the evacuation of hundreds of thousands of people in southeast China and killed at least two in Taiwan. China's National Meteorological Center said it was downgraded to a tropical storm by late Saturday, and by early Sunday morning after moving inland from Fujian province, it had further weakened to a tropical low pres-

sure. The typhoon had disrupted transportation and commerce across Taiwan, cutting power to 520,000 homes around Taipei before hitting coastal Fujian on Saturday afternoon, where about 300,000 people were evacuated from their homes, according to the official Xinhua News Agency. Earlier, Soulik had buffeted large areas of northern and central Taiwan with torrential rains, forcing authorities to close schools and businesses throughout northern Taiwan.

### Suspected US drone kills 2 militants in Pakistan

**PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)**—Pakistani intelligence officials say a suspected American drone has killed two alleged militants in the country's northwest. The two officials said the militants were riding on a motorcycle Saturday when two missiles hit them. The incident happened in the village of Musaki outside of Mir Ali, one of the main towns

in North Waziristan province. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media. It was the second strike in Pakistan this month. An earlier attack killed 16 suspected militants in North Waziristan. U.S. drone strikes have become a serious source of tension between Washington and Islamabad. The Pakistani government regularly denounces the strikes as a violation of the country's sovereignty.

## Manila sets UN conditions for Golan force to stay

### MANILA, Philippines (AP)

Philippine Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario has set out conditions to the United Nations for more than 300 Filipino peacekeepers to stay in the Golan Heights, including additional weapons for their protection and shorter periods of deployment in the volatile buffer region separating Israel from Syria, officials said Sunday.

U.N. peacekeeping chief Herve Ladsous told Philippine Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario in a meeting Friday in New York that the world body will work "with all stakeholders to provide what is needed consistent with the disengagement agreement," the Department of Foreign Affairs said in a statement.

President Benigno Aquino III's administration did not immediately say if the U.N. pledge would be enough for it to decide to keep 342 Filipino soldiers in the Golan Heights beyond Aug. 11, when the Philippine contingent was to be replaced by fresh troops. Aquino has sought increased security for the troops, saying they face "an undoable

mission" if their security in the increasingly violent buffer zone was not bolstered.

Austria announced recently that it would remove its 377 peacekeepers from the 911-member U.N. peacekeeping force, which includes troops from India, leaving the Philippines as the largest single contributor of armed peacekeepers.

The United Nations and the United States have asked the Philippines to keep its troops in place, warning of "maximum volatility" in the Golan Heights if the Filipinos withdraw after a number of other countries such as Japan and Croatia pulled out their forces amid escalating violence and a series of abductions of peacekeepers.

Del Rosario told Ladsous that the Philippines wanted the U.N. to deploy an agreed peacekeeping force of 1,250 troops and acquire additional protective equipment and weapons for the soldiers by October. Filipino troops should also be allowed to be replaced every six months, shorter than the current deployment, the statement said.

## ASIAN BRIEFS

### Powerful typhoon downgraded in China

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### Bhutan opposition wins parliamentary elections

**GAUHATI, India (AP)**—Bhutan's main opposition party, which campaigned on developing stronger ties with neighbor India, has won a majority of seats in parliamentary elections and will take over power in the tiny Himalayan nation. The People's Democratic Party won 32 seats in the 47-member National Assembly in the elections held Saturday, Chief Election Commissioner Kunzang Wangdi

announced Sunday. The ruling Peace and Prosperity Party won 15 seats. The elected members of parliament belonging to the PDP were expected to meet over the next few days to choose their parliamentary leader, with Tshering Tobgay is likely to be named prime minister of the new government. Tobgay, the 47-year-old president of the PDP with a master's in public administration from Harvard university, was opposition leader in the outgoing parliament.

# World

## Russia: No asylum application from Snowden

**MOSCOW** (AP)—Russian immigration officials said Saturday they have not received an application from Edward Snowden, the U.S. National Security Agency leaker who wants to get asylum in Russia.

Snowden came to Moscow's Sheremetyevo international

airport on June 23 from Hong Kong, apparently intending to board a flight to Cuba. But he did not get on that flight and is believed to have spent the last three weeks marooned in the airport's transit zone.

On Friday, he met with human rights activists there and

said he would seek Russian asylum, at least as a temporary measure before going to Venezuela, Bolivia or Nicaragua, all of which have offered him asylum.

But the Interfax news agency quoted Russian migration service head Konstantin Romo-

danovsky as saying no asylum request had been received as of Saturday. The state news agency RIA Novosti cited migration service spokeswoman, Zalina Kornilova, as also saying no request had been received.

Snowden had made a previous bid for Russian asylum, but President Vladimir Putin said he

would have to agree to stop further leaks of information about American intelligence service activities before it would be considered. Snowden withdrew the bid, but participants in Friday's meeting said he was now ready to agree to stop leaks.

Granting asylum to Snowden would add significant new

stress to already-troubled Washington-Moscow relations.

Putin and President Barack Obama are expected to hold a summit in Moscow in early September, right before both take part in the Group of 20 summit in St. Petersburg, and the Snowden issue could overshadow both gatherings.

### Report: Israel led air strike in Syria on July 5

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—U.S. officials say Israel targeted advanced anti-ship cruise missiles near Syria's principal port city in an air attack carried out earlier this month, The New York Times reported.

The officials say the attack on July 5 near the city of Latakia targeted a type of Russian-made missile called the Yakhont that Russia had sold to the Syrian government, the Times reported on its website Saturday night. Russia is a key political ally and arms supplier of Syrian President Bashar

Assad's regime.

The officials didn't provide details on the strike, including the extent of the damage and how many missiles were used. The Times reported that the officials declined to be identified because they were discussing intelligence reports.

Israel maintains it's not involved in Syria's 2-year-old civil war except to stop weapons transfers. The strike near Latakia was the fourth known air strike in Syria by Israel this year, the newspaper reported.

The attack came to light

after Syrian rebels said they were not behind the explosions in Latakia on July 5, according to the Times. Neither U.S. nor Israeli officials have commented publicly on the report.

Reports surfaced earlier this year that Russia had delivered an advanced version of its Yakhont anti-ship cruise missile to Assad's regime even though Russia had stated that it was committed to peace talks. Those reports prompted the U.S. to complain in May about an "ill-timed" step by Russia.

linked extremists who had seized northern Mali and threatened the capital. The country is heading for elections July 28, but tensions involving rebel Tuaregs in the north linger, along with political instability.

Beyond the triumphal display on the Champs-Elysees, including flyovers by fighter jets, the realities in Mali suggest that President Francois Hollande's first military intervention has had mixed results.

The mission he launched in January helped the Malian government retake control of much of the country from al-Qaida-

linked extremists who had seized northern Mali and threatened the capital. The country is heading for elections July 28, but tensions involving rebel Tuaregs in the north linger, along with political instability.

Sunday's events, however, will focus on the positive.

"Their presence is a tribute to those who actively helped to banish terrorism of the Malian territory," Hollande said of the African troops marching in Paris.

Defense Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said it is "the mark of a solidarity that concretely expressed itself in Mali, and

of a common destiny, even beyond the limits of continents, of which we have every reason to be proud."

But some critics say the Mali operation and African presence in the parade reflect France's ambiguous and sometimes patronizing relations with the continent—especially with its former colonies such as Mali—often referred to as "Francafrique."

The French non-governmental organization Survie, which is fighting against neocolonialism, condemned "the self-proclaimed role of gendarme of Africa that France claimed in Mali."



**Woman gored during final bull run in Spain**

**PAMPLONA, Spain** (AP)—An Australian woman has been injured in a goring in the final bull run of Spain's San Fermin festival, while four other runners sustained cuts and bruises.

A regional health official, Javier Sesma, says the 23-year-old woman was gored in the thorax and was hospitalized along with the other four.

The Australian, whose con-

dition wasn't immediately released, was struck by a massive Miura bull as she clung to wooden barriers yards outside the bull ring entrance. Other runners got tossed by the bulls

Runners trip and fall ahead of the bulls blocking the entrance to the bullring during the running of the bulls of the San Fermin festival, in Pamplona, Spain, Saturday, July 13, 2013. AP

or fell as they ran.

Miuras are renowned as Spain's largest and fastest fight-

ing bulls, and Sunday's run was quick, taking 2 minutes, 16 seconds to cover 928 yards (850

meters) from stables just outside Pamplona's medieval stone wall to the central bullring.

# Health & Fitness

## Study: Brainpower in the very old may be improving

**NEW YORK (AP)**—If you're lucky enough to live into your 90s, how well will your brain hold up? You may have an edge over people who got there ahead of you, a new study hints.

Researchers found that on tests of mental abilities, a group of 95-year-old Danes scored better than a group of Danes born 10 years earlier, who had been tested when they were about the same age.

In a standard simple test, for example, 23 percent of them scored in the highest category, compared to 13 percent of the earlier-born group. Out of the 30 questions and tasks, members of the later-born group averaged two more correct responses than the earlier-born group did. The results were released Wednesday by the journal Lancet.

Why the better mental performance? It wasn't just better education, but beyond that the researchers could only guess at things like more intellectual stimulation and better diets earlier in life.

More people are living to such old ages. The U.S. census counted 425,000 Americans age 95 and older in 2010, a 26 percent increase over the total in 2000.



Tina Reese leads a word game for residents at a nursing home in Lancaster, Pa. on Feb. 28, 2013.

The mental testing compared 1,814 elderly Danes examined in 1998 to the later-born group of 1,247 Danes tested in 2010. The researchers also found that later-born Danes were better able to carry out basic living tasks like getting out of bed or a chair. So they were functioning better overall, the study concluded.

Lead author Dr. Kaare Christensen, head of the Danish Aging Research Center at the University of Southern Denmark in Odense, said he imagines that in the future, Danes who live into their 90s will continue to be better off than their predecessors. He was cautious about applying

the results to the United States, although he said the availability of education in the U.S. after World War II would be a plus.

Dr. James Pacala, associate head of the department of family medicine and community health at the University of Minnesota Medical School, who didn't participate in the study, said he suspects the same trends are present in the United States.

He also said the findings fit with previous work that shows people are functioning better at given ages than they used to.

But Pacala, who heads the board of the American Geriatrics Society, noted that even in the better-functioning group of

Danes, at least 40 percent and probably more had dementia.

Denise Park, an expert in mental function and aging at

the University of Texas in Dallas, called the mental test results provocative but said it's not clear why the differences

appeared. She said she would want to know if the effect holds up for 80-year-olds as well.

"If it's real, it should," she said.

### Study: Air pollution cut northern China lifespans

**BEIJING (AP)**—A new study links heavy air pollution from coal burning to shorter lives in northern China. Researchers estimate that the half-billion people alive there in the 1990s will live an average of 5 1/2 years less than their southern counterparts because they breathed dirtier air.

China itself made the comparison possible: for decades, a now-discontinued government policy provided free coal for heating, but only in the colder north. Researchers found significant differences in both particle pollution of the air and life expectancy in the two regions, and said the results could be used to extrapolate the effects of such pollution on lifespans elsewhere in the world.

The study by researchers from China, Israel and the United States was published Tuesday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

While previous studies have found that pollution affects hu-

man health, "the deeper and ultimately more important question is the impact on life expectancy," said one of the authors, Michael Greenstone, a professor of environmental economics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"This study provides a unique setting to answer the life expectancy question because the (heating) policy dramatically alters pollution concentrations for people who appear to be of otherwise identical health," Greenstone said in an email. "Further, due to the low rates of migration in China in this period, we can know people's exposure over long time periods," he said.

The policy gave free coal for fuel boilers to heat homes and offices to cities north of the Huai River, which divides China into north and south. It was in effect for much of the 1950-1980 period of central planning, and, though discontinued after 1980, it has left a

legacy in the north of heavy coal burning, which releases particulate pollutants into the air that can harm human health. Researchers found no other government policies that treated China's north differently from the south.

The researchers collected data for 90 cities, from 1981 to 2000, on the annual daily average concentration of total suspended particulates. In China, those are considered to be particles that are 100 micrometers or less in diameter, emitted from sources including power stations, construction sites and vehicles.

The researchers estimated the impact on life expectancies using mortality data from 1991-2000. They found that in the north, the concentration of particulates was 184 micrograms per cubic meter—or 55 percent—higher than in the south, and life expectancies were 5.5 years lower on average across all age ranges.

### Personal Trainer

#### Staying safe on a treadmill

Treadmill machines seem simple to use, but they run with enough power to cause severe injuries to a careless or unlucky person.

##### Straddle to start up

Stand over belt as you turn on machine; step on or off only if belt is moving slowly



##### Safe location

Lock room to keep children from playing on treadmill; watch that children, pets or inattentive adults do not step onto it when it is running



**Look forward** Your feet will follow your eyes; try to run in the center of belt, not at front or rear



##### Minimize handrail use

OK at first, but learn to swing your arms as you run; if you must hold rails to climb a hill or cruise, the belt speed is set too high



##### Understand and use its safety features

Such as automatic stop feature and unlock codes that must be used to start the treadmill

##### Expect to feel dizzy

Dazed feeling after stopping is normal for beginners; hold something solid after dismounting to prevent a fall



© 2013 MCT  
Source: Fitness Walking For Dummies  
Graphic: Helen Lee  
McComas and Paul Trap

### In Humble Gratitude

#### †Joaquin "Mitch" Ito Pangelinan

We wish to extend our heartfelt appreciation

—Si Yu'us Ma'ase — Domo Arigato to each and every one of you for your kindness, your gestures of support, and your prayers during the greatest and most painful time of sorrow and loss of our beloved husband, father, and grandfather: †Joaquin "Mitch" Ito Pangelinan.



Our special thanks to Father Nonoy, Father Jesse Reyes, Father Ryan, the alter servers, our Techa, Mrs. Marcie P. Cepeda, Tanapag choirs, Ms. Emi Palican and the doctors, nurses and staff of the hospitals on Saipan, Guam, Hawaii and the US mainland.

We will always remember you in our hearts and prayers.

"May God Bless You All"

Once again, Un Dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Domo Arigato.



Carmen Tudela Cabrera-Pangelinan  
Mark, Michael, Zarah, Ian, Gina,  
Brenna and Jacqueena "Tomiko"

# Life & Style

## Cory Monteith, star of hit show 'Glee,' found dead

**VANCOUVER, British Columbia** (AP)—Cory Monteith, the handsome young actor who shot to fame in the hit TV series “Glee” but was beset by addiction struggles so fierce that he once said he was lucky to be alive, was found dead in a hotel room, police said. He was 31.

Monteith, who played the character Finn Hudson on the Fox TV series about a high school glee club, was found dead in his room on the 21st floor of the Fairmont Pacific Rim Hotel on Vancouver’s waterfront at about noon Saturday, according to police.

Deputy Police Chief Doug Lepard said there was no indication of foul play. Monteith’s body was found by hotel staff after he missed his check-out time, Lepard said.

“We do not have a great deal of information as to cause of

### Justin Bieber apologizes for presidential antics

**CHICAGO** (AP)—Justin Bieber apologized by phone to Bill Clinton, the former president’s office said Thursday, for cursing Clinton and spraying his photo with cleaning fluid in a New York City restaurant kitchen earlier this year.

The pop star also had repercussions from a tour stop in Chicago earlier this week when city officials said Bieber was listed as an underage guest on a citation that police issued to a nightclub.

Clinton’s office said Thursday the pop star called and “he apologized and offered to help the Clinton Foundation.” Clinton’s office declined to provide any other details.

A video released Wednesday by TMZ.com shows the 19-year-old Bieber urinating in a mop bucket as he and others race through the restaurant kitchen. Before exiting, Bieber sprays the Clinton photo and drops the F-bomb in reference to the former president.



Bieber

at Chicago’s United Center on Tuesday evening.

The next step is for the citation to go to an administrative hearing. The club faces a fine of up to \$1,000. A date hasn’t been set.

Bodi issued a statement saying Bieber made a brief appearance to support a friend who is a DJ and was performing at the nightclub. The club said Bieber was not served alcohol.

“Neither Justin nor anyone affiliated with Bodi broke any laws,” the statement said. “We believe this matter amounts to a simple misunderstanding with local police officers.”

A representative for Bieber did not immediately have comment.

In California, the rapper known as Lil Twist was arrested for investigation of driving under the influence after being stopped while behind the wheel of Bieber’s luxury sports car.

Christopher Moore, 20, was pulled over around 3:30 a.m. Thursday

on a Calabasas road leading to a gated community where Bieber lives, said Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department spokesman Steve Whitmore.

Moore was driving a 2012 Fisker registered to the pop star and going between 60 mph (96.56 kph) and 70 mph (112.65 kph) in an area that has a 30 mph (48.28 kph) speed limit because of construction, authorities said.

Investigators think Moore might have been under the influence of marijuana. Bail was set at \$5,000 for the misdemeanor offense. Moore is signed to Lil Wayne’s Young Money Entertainment label imprint. An email seeking comment was sent to his record label.

Bieber performed in a concert

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Bieber performed in a concert

death,” Coroner Lisa Lapointe said.

Lepard said Monteith had been out with people earlier and that those people are being interviewed.

“I have no words! My heart is broken,” Dot-Marie Jones, who plays football coach Shannon Beiste on “Glee,” said in a post on her Twitter account Saturday night. She called Monteith a “hell of a friend” and an “amazing” man.

“What an absolutely tragic loss of a very talented young man,” tweeted Zooey Deschanel, star of another Fox show, “New Girl.”

Fox and the producers of “Glee,” including 20th Century Fox Television, called him an exceptional performer “and an even more exceptional person. He was a true joy to work with and we will all miss him



In this May 25, 2012 file photo, Canadian actor Cory Monteith looks on while attending a charitable announcement at Project Limelight, a not-for-profit children’s theatre program, in Vancouver, British Columbia. AP

tremendously.”

“We are in shock and mourning this tragic loss,” his representatives at Viewpoint Public Relations in Los Angeles said in a statement.

In April, Monteith admitted himself to a treatment facility for “substance addiction” and asked for privacy as he took steps toward recovery, a representative said at the time.

Lea Michele, his “Glee” co-star and real-life girlfriend, told People magazine that she loved and supported him and was proud he was seeking help.

It was not Monteith’s first time in rehab. He received treatment when he was 19 and had previously talked about his addiction struggles, saying he had a serious problem and took just “anything and everything.”

He told Parade magazine in 2011 that he was “lucky to be alive.”

Monteith, who turned 31 on May 11, starred in “Glee” as a high school football player who puts his status and popularity at risk to join the glee club and its outcast members.

The show, with its pop music-based song-and-dance numbers and high-profile guest stars

### Tehran art auction lures spenders amid hard times

By NASSER KARIMI  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

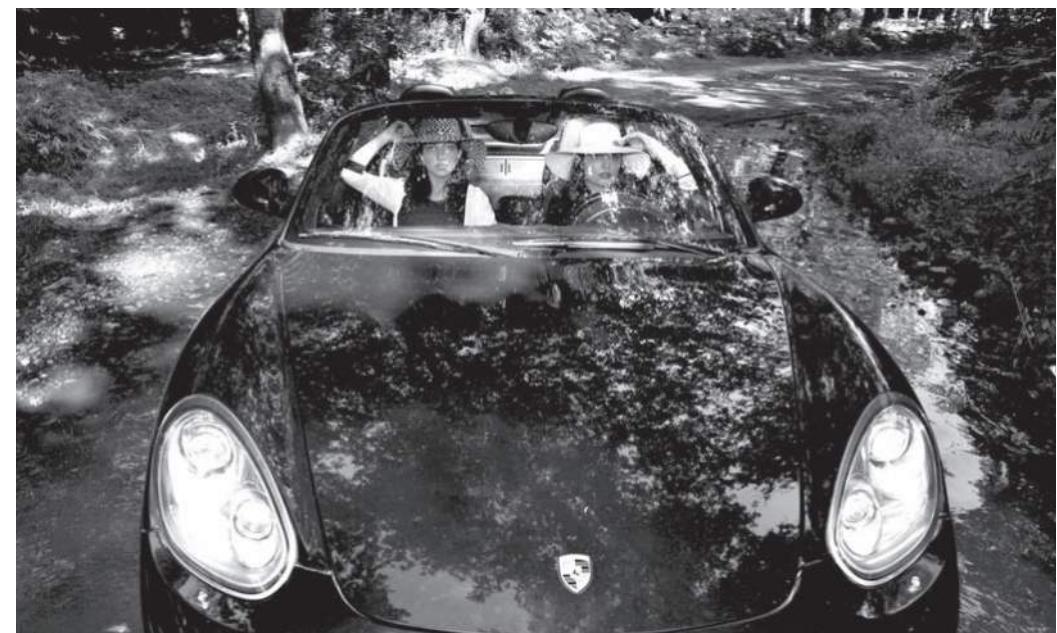
**TEHRAN, Iran** (AP)—Some arrived in Porsches or BMWs, which were whisked away by valet parking attendants. The hotel lobby was awash with the celebrated and powerful including A-list actors, well-known artists and captains of commerce.

For one glimmering moment late last month, the Iranian capital was the talk of the world’s art market after 80 works sold for \$2 million, astonishing a country whose economy is battered by Western sanctions but still has pockets of wealth looking for investment havens for their money.

This is the other side to Tehran—hidden by walls surrounding elite enclaves or in high-rise towers with doormen—that has more in common with well-heeled spots in Manhattan or London.

Many in the gilded set of Tehran come from old merchant families. Others made it big in newer ventures: the export trade with the Gulf or the city’s still-hot real estate market, where prime residential property prices in the overcrowded capital can reach Tokyo-level rates of \$10,000 per square meter, or \$929 per square foot.

Signs of wealth still appear in Tehran even as sanctions bite deeper over the country’s nuclear program. The winner, Hasan



In this picture taken on Friday, May 24, 2013, two Iranian women ride in a Porsche, in Noor forest, northern Iran. AP

Car dealers get orders—even at inflated price tags because of import complications—for a \$300,000 Mercedes Benz or BMWs at \$200,000 each. Ice cream flaked with edible gold dust was a signature dish at the rotating restaurant atop Tehran’s 435-meter (1,427-foot) Milad Tower. Officials chagrined by the extravagance banned the dessert in 2011, as tightening sanctions have led to shortages of medicine and protests over the soaring price of chicken.

Iran’s stumbling economy has become such a political issue that it dominated debates before June’s presidential election. The winner, Hasan

Rouhani, has pledged to try to reverse painful inflation now running at about 30 percent and work to ease sanctions.

The art auction—Tehran’s second such event in the past year—offered a rare window into the investment strategies of the city’s rich, whose route to acquire assets overseas has been complicated by sanctions that bumped Iran from main international banking networks.

Now some of Iran’s wealth increasingly appears drawn to the rising profile and prices of Iranian art in galleries from Dubai to Los Angeles. In April, the painting “The Secret Garden” by Iranian artist Farhad Moshiri brought the high-

including Gwyneth Paltrow, became an immediate hit and made stars of its relatively unknown cast.

The series, which debuted in 2009, is in its fourth season.

On his Twitter account, Monteith described himself as “tall, awkward, canadian, actor, drummer, person.”

In a 2010 interview with The Associated Press, Monteith was upbeat about life. He said that if “Glee” were to be canceled he would be OK.

“I’ve never been afraid of working,” he said. “I’ve never been afraid of auditioning for jobs. Obviously, I’ve never been afraid of anonymity. I was happy (before ‘Glee’). I’m happy now. I guess I’m well adjusted.”

Monteith was among the “Glee” actors who remained series regulars as their characters graduated high school and moved on to other adventures.

According to his biography on Fox’s website, Monteith was born in Calgary, Alberta, and moved to Vancouver Island as a child. Before turning to acting, he held a variety of jobs including Wal-Mart greeter, school bus driver, roofer and cab driver.

**Justin Bieber apologizes for presidential antics**

## Singer Randy Travis sedated, remains critical

**NASHVILLE, Tennessee** (AP)—Hospital officials say country music star Randy Travis remains in critical condition and has been under heavy sedation since surgery following a stroke.

The 54-year-old singer has been hospitalized since Sunday after suffering congestive heart failure due to a viral illness.

Travis suffered the stroke Wednesday night at The Heart Hospital Baylor Plano and doctors performed surgery to relieve pressure on his brain.

A hospital statement says the "Three Wooden Crosses" singer is resting comfortably and that his family continues to ask for prayers and support.

The Grammy Award-winning singer has been surrounded by family and friends while in the hospital and received a visit Thursday from George Jones' widow, Nancy, who played music for her late husband's long-time friend.

### SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

#### Hamm taking plunge into sports world as ESPYs host

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Jon Hamm is going from a presenter to host of the ESPY Awards. It's a natural segue for the former student athlete, who's an unabashed fan of his hometown St. Louis Cardinals. Hamm called himself a "pretty good" high school player. But he's quick to note he was never a threat to go pro. That's why the 42-year-old actor best known as Don Draper on AMC's "Mad Men" wants to keep the focus on the athletes when he hosts the annual show honoring the year's best sports moments. It airs live on ESPN on July 17 from the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles. Among the scheduled presenters are LeBron James, Ben Affleck, Sean "Diddy" Combs, Selena Gomez, Danica Patrick, Maria Sharapova and Sports Illustrated swimsuit model Chrissy Teigen.

#### Aretha cancels hometown show citing treatment

**CLARKSTON, Michigan** (AP)—Aretha Franklin has canceled a Detroit-area performance set for July 27, citing ongoing treatment. The show at DTE Energy Music Theatre in Clarkston initially had been scheduled for June 22, but Franklin postponed it to later this month. Then, in a letter written by the Grammy-winning singer and distributed Friday by her publicist, Franklin says she was canceling the show "one last time" due to an unspecified ongoing treatment. The 71-year-old Queen of Soul had announced in May that she was putting off scheduled performances in Chicago and Connecticut to undergo medical treatment.

## Winfrey's OWN announces Lohan post-rehab interview



This April 11, 2013 file photo shows actress Lindsay Lohan, a cast member in "Scary Movie V," at the premiere of the film in Los Angeles. AP

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—When Lindsay Lohan gets out of rehab this summer, Oprah Winfrey will be waiting to talk to her.

Winfrey's cable channel, OWN, said Friday that Winfrey is getting an "exclusive" interview with Lohan that will tape and air in August.

In May, Lohan checked into a Southern California rehab center for a 90-day stay, part of a plea deal in a misdemeanor case filed after a car accident. She's expected to finish rehab around the end of July.

OWN says it also plans an eight-part documentary series with Lohan, to air in 2014.

The 27-year-old Lohan, whose credits include "The Parent Trap" and "Liz & Dick," has struggled with legal and other woes. OWN and Winfrey have scored ratings with other newsworthy celebrity interviews, including Lance Armstrong and Rihanna.

## Kevin Costner selling land in South Dakota



In this Feb. 9, 2013 file photo, Hollywood actor Kevin Costner watches the men's downhill at the Alpine skiing world championships in Schladming, Austria. AP

**DEADWOOD, South Dakota** (AP)—Hollywood actor Kevin Costner is asking \$14 million for 1,000 acres (405 hectares) of land he owns near the Old West gambling town of Deadwood in western South Dakota's Black Hills.

The property includes the site of the ill-fated Dunbar casino resort, a \$100 million project that would have included a golf course and a steam-powered passenger train. It never materialized.

The listing does not include Costner's Midnight Star casino and restaurant, the tallest building on Deadwood's Main Street, or the \$6 million visitor attraction he owns on the town's north edge called Tatanka: Story of the Bison.

Costner filmed much of his Academy Award-winning movie "Dances with Wolves" in South Dakota.

"He has a strong sense of loyalty to the area and it was a hard decision for him," real estate

agent Mike Percevich said, adding that it took months for Costner to make up his mind.

Costner and his brother Dan proposed the construction of the 320-room resort in 1993, shortly after the release of "Dances

With Wolves." It was named for Costner's movie character, Lt. John J. Dunbar. The brothers sunk several million dollars into the project before stopping construction when they could not find enough investors.

## Report: Actress Remini breaks with Scientology

further comment.

But a person familiar with Remini's decision said the statement referred to her break with the church and public reaction to it. The person, who wasn't authorized to comment publicly, spoke on condition of anonymity.

A message seeking comment from the Church of Scientology International in Los Angeles was not immediately returned Thursday night.

Remini has been a longtime member of the church. When she joined CBS' daytime pro-



Remini

## Woman attracted to older men should ignore hostile comments

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I have led an unusual life. I lived abroad alone in my late teens, spent my early 20s exploring the West, and finished my college degree a year early while working full time. It gave me independence, experience and clarity.

My problem is, in dating I feel leagues ahead of men who are my age. I am attracted to much older men. My current boyfriend is 15 years older than I am. The age gap is often a topic of conversation among my acquaintances, co-workers and some family members. My boyfriend has also experienced unwanted comments about dating a much younger woman.

What are your thoughts on who a person should be dating in her early 20s? And how should I deal with those who believe I am breaking a social code?

OLD SOUL IN COLORADO

DEAR OLD SOUL: I can't give you an unbiased opinion because when I was in my early 20s, I dated older men. They liked to talk, I liked to listen, and I learned a great deal about life from them. I hope the same will be true for you.

As to how you should deal with people who accuse you of breaking a social norm, unless they have a valid reason for criticizing the man you're dating, I think you should tune them out.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am a 26-year-old woman who is afraid of my true feelings. I have been friends with a woman who is a lesbian for seven years. I have always been attracted to women—especially her—but I have always dated men.

I have just ended a five-year relationship, and over the past few months my friend and I have grown very close. I am starting to have feelings for her sexually. I think about her all the time. She's beautiful, smart, inspiring and has an amazing personality.

My problem is, I have an 8-year-old daughter, and I don't know how she would handle it if I were to date a woman instead of a man. I am also afraid of how my family would react.

Our attraction is unspoken, but I can see it when I look into her eyes. Should I admit my feelings or should we remain friends?

A FRAID OF MY TRUE FEELINGS IN OHIO

DEAR AFRAID: I am reluctant to advise you to spend the rest of your life living a lie in order to avoid upsetting your family, because I don't think it would be healthy for you.

Talk to your friend. Once you are sure the relationship with this woman is serious, mutual and lasting, you can tell your daughter you are dating. Children are adaptable, and this may be less of a surprise to her than you fear. My advice is to listen to your heart and you won't go wrong.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband and my son get along better with me when they're not together. When I am there, they gang up on me and become adversarial. I have reached a point where I hate to be around them at the same time.

I don't know what to do about this. When I try to talk to my husband about it, he gets angry and blames me. I don't think I can take much more. What do you think about this?

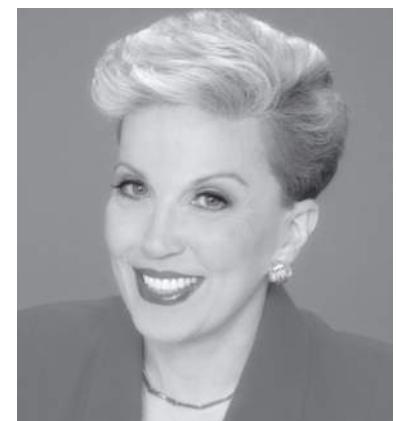
THREE'S A CROWD IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DEAR THREE'S A CROWD: If picking on you is part of their male bonding, it's unhealthy. Your husband may do it because he has underlying anger issues he doesn't express directly to you. Your son may participate because his father encourages it, but he should not be allowed to treat you with disrespect.

Before this takes a further toll on your marriage, the three of you should get family counseling. If that doesn't help, you may need individual counseling to help you either stand up for yourself or decide whether you can continue living this way.

■ ■ ■

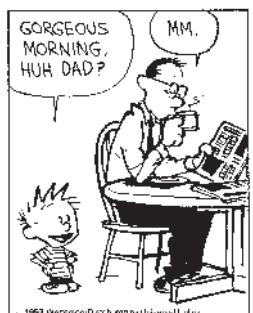
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



Dear Abby

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes



GORGEOUS MORNING, HUH DAD?

MM.

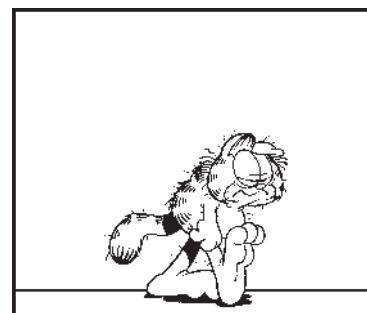
THESE SUMMER DAYS SURE SLIP BY, DONT THEY? TOO BAD THE DAILY DRUDGERY OF MAKING A LIVING HAS TO KEEP YOU FROM APPRECIATING THESE SUBLIME MOMENTS OF LIFE.

1993 UNIVERSAL URG 6-27 © 2013 by Universal Uclick



By Bill Waterson

## Garfield®



By Jim Davis

## Adam@home



DAD? WILL YOU TAKE ME FISHING?

SERIOUSLY?

YEAH. IT LOOKS FUN.

SURE. LET'S DO IT.

MAYBE CARL WOULD LET US USE HIS BOAT.



By Bryan Basset

## The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	39	Amateur golfers	DOWN	21	Pickle container
1	Venomous viper	41 Local ordinances	1	On	con-
4	Autumn mo.	43 Sprite	2	Antitoxins	tainer
7	Edibles	44 Double agent	3	Hammer-head	23 Hawaiian garland
11	Abound	45 Luxury boat	4	Rowing need	part
13	Boxing legend	50 Ms. Moore	5	Staff leader?	25 Not working
14	Operatic solo	51 Arctic bird	6	"—	26 Approach
15	Sandwich cookie	52 Nastase of tennis lore	7	1966-71 sitcom	27 Blunders
16	The R in AARP	53 Snooki	8	Raw mineral	28 Impale
17	Pinochle tactic	54 Sceptors	9	Lubricate	29 Sacred
18	Bamboo eater	55 Alluring	10	Papa	30 MPs' quarry
20	Honshu volcano	56 Yule quaff	11	12 Sitcom	31 Neither Rep. nor Dem.
22	Right angle	57 Devil	13	2009	35 Seek damages
24	Contact lens cleaner, e.g.	58 Acetone	14	2009	38 Pair
28	Wrinkly dog	59 Tamil	15	2009	40 Take to the skies
32	Actress Winona	60 Hindu	16	2009	42 Dispatched
33	Suburb, maybe	61 Obtain	17	2009	45 Overseas coin
34	Office-holders		18	2009	47 Stop up
36	Winged		19	2009	48 Stash
37	In the air		20	2009	49 Exam
			21	2009	50 Spanish
			22	2009	38-Down
			23	2009	51 Before
			24	2009	52 Upper limit, for short
			25	2009	54 Small barrel



Friday's answer

7-15

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Diane Kruger, 37; Brian Austin Green, 40; Jason Bonham, 47; Forest Whitaker, 52.

**Happy Birthday:** It's good to question and even better to consider all angles of whatever situation you face this year if it will prevent you from making an impulsive move that will lead to regret. In your personal and your professional life, keeping an even pace with reasonable expectations will help deter any unfortunate results. Strive to be and do your best. Your numbers are 4, 12, 15, 23, 31, 34, 47.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): Make self-improvements instead of trying to change others. Rethink the way you are living. Don't make abrupt changes. Plan your strategy and ease into whatever you feel will bring you the best results over the longest duration. ☀️☀️

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Speak up, especially when dealing with business or personal partners. If you don't voice your opinion, you won't get what you want. Travel plans can be made, but caution must be taken when dealing with foreigners or institutions. ☀️☀️

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Your interests will take you in an unusual direction. You will instinctively know what changes to make in order to enhance your appearance or make your surroundings more comfortable or conducive to something you want to pursue. Love is in the stars. ☀️☀️☀️

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Refrain from overreacting. Problems will result if you are impulsive, overindulgent or emotionally difficult to get along with. Take a

step back and rethink your every move. Focus on creative endeavors you can work on without interference. ☀️☀️

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): You will attract people willing to contribute to whatever your cause might be, but they are not likely to follow through. Find a way to make needed improvements or changes on your own. Love is in the stars, and self-improvement projects will turn out well. ☀️☀️☀️

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take a creative or unusual approach to the way you handle people or partners. Share your concerns and you will receive some suggestions that can make your life easier. Helping others will be well-received and ensure you get the same in return. ☀️☀️

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Listen carefully to what's being said. You may be asked to do things that go against your beliefs. An emotional change is likely to cause problems for you at work or at home. Consider your needs first. Refuse to let pushy people take over. ☀️☀️

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Interact as much as possible. You'll learn from the experiences you encounter. You can stabilize your personal life by making unique alterations to the way you live. Explore new ideas, people and places. Keep emotions out of the workplace. ☀️☀️

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Make changes at home that will add to your comfort. Love is on the rise, and relationships can make a difference to the way you move forward both personally and professionally.

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



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ally. A realistic approach to life and relationships will be necessary. ☀️☀️☀️

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Stick close to home. People from different backgrounds will cause trouble within your important partnerships. Keep your thoughts concise and out in the open to avoid rumors or blame for something you didn't do. ☀️

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Count your money, look over your important papers and don't promise too much. Keep life simple and avoid impulsive change. Love is in the stars, but it can also turn out to be a costly venture. Proceed with caution. ☀️☀️☀️

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Take on whatever comes your way. Embrace the future with gusto. Make personal, financial and professional changes that will ensure that you are able to keep up your standard of living. An unusual approach to the way you live will pay off and ease stress. ☀️☀️

**Birthday Baby:** You are curious, but cautious. You are intuitive, mysterious and secretive. Eugenia's website — [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com). Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoror> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](http://twitter/facebook/linkedin).

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

1	5		6		8				
4	9	2	8		7				
8		4		1	2				
7	4			5					
8	5			2	3				
6			1	9					
3	8	7		2					
9	8	2	4		1				
4	5			8	7				

Difficulty Level ★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

3	1	8	6	4	7	2	5	9
5	7	2	3	1	9	8	4	6
4	6	9	2	5	8	7	1	3
6	5	4	7	8	3	1	9	2
1	2	3	9	6	4	5	8	7
9	8	7	1	2	5	6	3	4
7	4	1	5	3	6	9	2	8
8	9	5	4	7	2	3	6	1
2	3	6	8	9	1	4	7	5

Difficulty Level ★★★★

7/15

## WONDERWORD

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

JONATHAN WINTERS (1925-2013)

By DAVID OUELLET

Solution: 6 letters

L	E	T	S	N	I	G	G	U	S	M	R	F	S
I	I	L	S	M	E	T	R	K	C	I	R	F	W
T	L	F	W	I	A	S	C	O	M	E	D	I	A
T	E	R	E	O	T	I	H	G	N	I	S	H	O
L	E	O	E	W	R	O	P	A	P	A	E	H	E
E	N	S	M	V	I	D	A	R	D	E	I	R	N
P	S	T	C	N</									

# CLASSIFIED ADS


**EMPLOYMENT**

(2) Fisherman, (2) Sales Representative. Minimum salary. Send resume to SMJ Corporation, P.O.Box 503944 Saipan MP 96950.

1 Tour Guide: \$5.55/hr, tips, commission. High school diploma, 2 years tour industry experience, Korean speaking and writing fluency required. Email resume to hit@hanmisaipan.com.

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Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. \$600/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. \$550. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Small 3BR & 2BTH. Unit approximately 600 sq.ft. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nighttime security. \$450/mo. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

**Managing Editor**

Associates degree in Journalism, Creative Writing, English, or any related course. At least 8 years progressive journalism and newspaper management experience with a strong story evaluation and production background. Must have rigorous proofreading skills and able to meet tight deadlines. Knows how to use InDesign or Quark Express and must be adept in the various technical aspects of newspaper publishing.

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Associates degree in Journalism, Creative Writing, English, or any related course; At least 3 years work related experience; Above-average writing skills and a competent grasp of grammar and syntax; With rigorous standards for accuracy and detail; Ability to work within deadlines and in a stressful environment; Knowledgeable in all types of writing, including news and features; With photography skills.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Saipan Tribune, Inc. office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, July 25, 2013.

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Job Vacancy Announcement  
(1) Sales Manager  
Minimum 4 years experience with Bachelor's Degree.

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3RD FLOOR - APT UNIT:  
ONE (1 BEDROOM, 1 BATHROOM)  
CALL MARIA AT 483-3970

SAIPAN USA FISHERIES, INC.  
Job Vacancy Announcement  
(For US workers only)

(3) Fisherman  
Minimum of 4-5 years working experience required.

Interested applicants may send their resume to info@susaislandsseafood.com

**Century Tours, Inc.**  
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: (1) Training Coordinator  
Salary: \$5.55 - \$6.55 per hour  
Job Qualification: Bachelor's Degree in education or related field with experience in instruction or training.

Application: Applications and job description may be obtained from the Front Office of Century Tours, Inc., located at the Kanoa Resort, Saipan, Beach Road, Susupe, Saipan. Deadline for submission of completed applications is July 16, 2013 at 5:00 pm.

Job Vacancy Announcement  
(1) Warehouse Worker  
Salary: \$5.55 per hour. Two (2) years experience

Interested applicants, please mail your resume at Dong Rim Corporation  
PMB 200 P.O. Box 1000, Saipan, MP 96950

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WHATZIT Solution: Justin Timberlake

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

**WHATZIT?**

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

**timber just lake**

[www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames](http://www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames)

"My wish is to see my Dad and two brothers!"



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Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily

# Lincecum throws 1st no-hitter in win over Padres

 SAN DIEGO  
(A P) — The Freak is back.

Tim Lincecum tossed aside his recent struggles and pitched his first career no-hitter and the second in the majors in 11 days, a gem saved by a spectacular diving catch by right fielder Hunter Pence in the San Francisco Giants' 9-0 win over last-place San Diego on Saturday night.

Lincecum has won two Cy Young Awards and two World Series rings. Now he has something really remarkable—a no-hitter in which he threw a whopping career-high 148 pitches.

"Right now I think I'm just kind of coming down and don't know where to be emotionally," a calm Lincecum said.

The slightly built right-hander was in control from his first pitch until his last, which settled into left fielder Gregor Blanco's glove and set off a wild celebration in front of a pro-Giants crowd at Petco Park.

Catcher Buster Posey wrapped Lincecum (5-9) in a bear hug and lifted him off the ground. Lincecum was then mobbed by his teammates behind the mound and doused with water.

Blanco, who caught Yonder Alonso's fly ball to end the game, found Lincecum in the mob and handed him the ball.

Lincecum, who witnessed Jonathan Sanchez's no-hitter against San Diego in 2009 and Matt Cain's perfect game last year, was given a champagne shower by his teammates in the clubhouse.

Lincecum struck out 13. He walked four and hit a batter.

## Dodgers 1, Rockies 0

In Los Angeles, Zack Greinke retired his first 13 batters before finishing a two-hitter to win his fifth straight start and lead the Los Angeles Dodgers over the Colorado Rockies, 1-0.

The Dodgers won for the 14th time in 17 games despite the absence of rookie outfielder Yasiel Puig, who missed his first game since his promotion on June 3 because of a sore left hip.

## Braves 5, Reds 2

In Atlanta, Mike Minor struggled early before recovering to throw seven strong innings, and also hit a go-ahead double that led Atlanta over Homer Bailey and Cincinnati.

The Braves lost starting outfields Jason Heyward, B.J. Upton and Justin Upton to injuries in the first two games of the series, but had success with their fill-ins.

## Pirates 4, Mets 2

In Pittsburgh, Andrew McCutchen hit a tying home run and delivered a go-ahead single the next inning to rally Pittsburgh past New York for the Pirates' third straight win.

McCutchen's 10th homer made it 2-all in the sixth. He added an RBI single in the sev-



AP  
San Francisco Giants starting pitcher Tim Lincecum pitches in the ninth inning of his no-hitter over the San Diego Padres in a baseball game in San Diego, Saturday, July 13, 2013.

enth off Greg Burke (0-2).

## Cubs 6, Cardinals 4

In Chicago, Matt Garza pitched into the seventh inning for his fifth consecutive win and Alfonso Soriano homered again, leading Chicago over St. Louis.

Garza allowed a season-high 10 hits in 6 2-3 innings, but held the NL's highest scoring offense to two runs while improving to 5-0 with a 1.24 ERA in his last six starts. The right-hander struck out four and walked two. Soriano is batting .350 (21 for 60) with nine homers and 19 RBIs in his last 15 games.

## Marlins 2, Nationals 1, 10 innings

In Miami, Giancarlo Stanton homered leading off the ninth inning to tie it and Ed Lucas beat out double-play relay in the 10th to lift Miami over Washington.

Stanton connected against Rafael Soriano.

Steve Cishek (3-4) struck out Scott Hairston and Ryan Zimmerman with runners on second and third to end the Washington 10th.

## White Sox 5, Phillies 4, 11 innings

In Philadelphia, Alexei Ramirez hit a tiebreaking double in the 11th inning to lift Chicago over Philadelphia 5-4 in the opener of a day-night doubleheader.

After a 41-minute rain delay following the top of the ninth, White Sox righty Nate Jones

escaped a no-out, second-and-third jam in the bottom half.

The teams were forced to play two after Friday night's interleague game was rained out. John Lannan faces Chicago's Hector Santiago in the nightcap.

## Rangers 7, Tigers

In Detroit, Max Scherzer's un-

beaten run ended Saturday night when the Texas Rangers tagged the Detroit All-Star with his first loss of the season, defeating the Tigers 7-1.

Scherzer (13-1) was trying to become the first pitcher in the majors to start 14-0 since Roger Clemens in 1986. He allowed four runs and eight hits in six in-

nings, walking two and striking out six.

It was Scherzer's first regular-season loss since Sept. 23, a span of 21 starts.

## Indians 5, Royals 3

In Cleveland, Lonnie Chisenhall hit his first career grand slam, Scott Kazmir pitched into the seventh inning and the Indians beat the Royals.

Chisenhall's homer in the sixth broke open a 1-0 game and hit off the facing of the second deck in right field, landing in Kansas City's bullpen.

Kazmir (5-4) allowed two runs in 6 1-3 innings for his first victory since June 21 as the Indians won for the fifth time in seven games.

## Rays 4, Astros 3

In St. Petersburg, Luke Scott had a go-ahead RBI single in the sixth inning and a two-run homer in the fifth, leading the Rays to a victory over the Astros.

Roberto Hernandez survived a shaky first inning to post the Rays' 14th straight quality start, going six innings and giving up three runs and six hits. He won for the first time in six starts since June 11. Hernandez (5-10) struck out six.

## Blue Jays 7, Orioles 3

In Baltimore, J.P. Arencibia put Toronto ahead with a two-run single in the sixth inning, and the Blue Jays overcame home runs by Chris Davis and Adam Jones in a victory over the Orioles.

Edwin Encarnacion hit his 25th homer, and Maicer Izturis had three hits to help the Blue Jays secure their fourth win in 11 games.

Davis increased his major

league-leading home run total to 36 with his third long ball in three games.

## Twins 4, Yankees 1

In New York, Samuel Deduno pitched seven impressive innings and the slumping Twins finally figured out a way to beat the Yankees, hitting three home runs off Phil Hughes.

Trevor Plouffe, Ryan Doumit and Pedro Florimon connected against Hughes - all on 2-2 pitches. Minnesota snapped a six-game losing streak with its second victory in 14 games, winning for the first time in six meetings with the Yankees this year.

## Athletics 3, Red Sox 0

In Oakland, A.J. Griffin and Grant Balfour combined on a seven-hitter in Oakland's victory over Boston.

Derek Norris homered and Yoanis Cespedes added an RBI single to help the division-leading A's end a two-game losing streak and maintain their one-game lead over Texas in the West. Oakland reached 55 wins before the All-Star break for the first time since 1975.

## Mariners 6, Angels 0

In Seattle, Felix Hernandez threw eight shutout innings and Justin Smoak drove in four runs off Los Angeles starter Jered Weaver, including a three-run homer, in Seattle's win.

Smoak had an RBI single in the fourth inning that gave Seattle the lead, then provided the big blow in the sixth to cap a two-out rally. Kendrys Morales and Kyle Seager both singled and after Weaver (3-5) received a visit from pitching coach Mike Butcher.

They included Matteo Trentin, who perfectly timed his sprint finish to win his first Tour stage and the first for an Italian in the 100th race.

Rolling in more than seven minutes later with the bulk of the pack, Froome gave a few brief television interviews but skipped the usual daily news conference for the race leader so he could get to his hotel earlier and rest up for the Ventoux stage.

With 14 of 21 stages completed, Froome's closest rival is Bauke Mollema - a surprise because the Dutch rider has completed only one Tour, finishing 69th in 2011 and abandoning on Stage 11 last year. He is 2 minutes, 28 seconds off the lead.

Alberto Contador, the 2007 and '09 champion stripped of his 2010 win for a failed doping test, is 2:45 from Froome, placed third. Another danger for Froome on Ventoux could be Nairo Quintana, 5:18 back in eighth. The Colombian climber already jostled with Froome in the Pyrenees.

## Last week of vertical torture will decide Tour

LYON, France  
(AP) — Now, the

Tour de France goes sharply uphill, much more sharply than last year. More likely than not, the champion who will be crowned next Sunday in Paris will be the rider who copes best with this last week of vertical torture.

The pain starts on Sunday on the horrid climb of Mont Ventoux. The barren white mountain rises from the sun-baked plains of Provence. The 181 brave souls who have survived the 2,325 kilometers (1,444 miles) ridden so far, out of 198 who started two weeks ago, will see the climb coming long before they hit it, so there will be plenty of time for apprehension, for butterflies in the stomach, to build.

The forecast is for uninterrupted sunshine, so the riders will find no relief from the weather either. As if the climb itself wasn't hard enough, they will already have ridden 221 kilometers (137 miles), setting off in the mid-morning, before even reaching the foot of the

mountain in the late afternoon. So they will be tired for the ascension, too.

Sunday's stage—a grand total of 242.5 kilometers (150 miles), including the final climb—is the longest of this Tour and starts in the Rhone valley town of Givors.

"Ventoux is always scary," said Garmin-Sharp rider David Millar, a veteran of 12 Tours. "It's going to be horrible for everyone."

One of the big questions is whether yellow jersey-holder Chris Froome will zoom or go boom on the climb, perhaps extending his race lead if he has a good day or losing it if he has a disastrous one.

The Briton is an excellent climber. The steepness and length of the Ventoux ascent should suit him. But because the climb is so tough, even top riders can lose bags of time if they wilt. Ventoux has the hardest rating for Tour climbs. In around one hour of sustained physical effort, the Tour will go from an altitude of 300 meters to 1,900 meters (the equivalent

of a vertical mile). The uphill goes on for 21 kilometers (13 miles) to an old weather station at the summit.

Froome is bracing for his main rivals, who need to make up lost time, to try to ride away from him. If they succeed, leaving him far behind, Froome's Tour could be ruined. But they will be equally wary of him. If they tire too early and Froome then powers away, they may never catch him again before Paris. It could be fascinating cat-and-mouse. Or Froome and his challengers, tired from recent exertions, could spend the ascent mainly eyeballing each other.

"A lot of people have reason to attack now. A lot of people spent energy in the last couple of days so it will be an interesting one," said Froome, the Tour runner-up last year.

Saturday's stage was a hilly 191-kilometer (119-mile) ride to the city of Lyon, France's gourmet capital. With the main Tour protagonists saving themselves for Sunday, a group of 18 lower-ranked riders broke away.

# Wondolowski scores twice, US beats Cuba

**SANDY, Utah** (AP)—Chris Wondolowski is making a case that he should be included in the United States roster when World Cup qualifying resumes in September.

Wondolowski—with his jersey name spelled correctly this time—scored two more goals to raise his total to five in two matches, and the Americans overcame a slow start to beat Cuba 4-1 Saturday and advance to the CONCACAF Gold Cup quarterfinals. He became the first American with five goals in one Gold Cup tournament.

Landon Donovan tied the score late in the first half when converted his second penalty kick of the tournament for his 53rd international goal. Joe Corona got his first international goal early in the second, and Stuart Holden made his first start in nearly three years for the U.S. (2-0), which has reached the quarterfinals of all 12 Gold Cups.

The US won its seventh straight game, tying a team record set in June 2007.

While Wondolowski has led or tied Major League Soccer in goals for three straight seasons, he hadn't scored for the national team in 11 appearances before getting his first in an exhibition win over Guatemala on July 5.

"I'm very confident in my play," Wondolowski said. "Just even getting the goals is so huge. I'm feeling more confident in my passing and in my touch and things like that where it's helping me raise my level."

Wondolowski scored a first-half hat trick in Tuesday's 6-1 win over Belize, when his jersey was misspelled "Wondolowski." He started this match on the bench, then replaced Herculez Gomez in the 58th and scored the final two goals in the 66th and 85th minutes. Superstitious, the 30-year-old San Jose forward had an extra "W" stitched



United States' Chris Wondolowski celebrates after scoring against Cuba during the second half of a CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer game on Saturday, July 13, 2013, in Sandy, Utah. United States defeated Cuba, 4-1.

on the inside of his jersey.

"Wondo is doing wonderful," U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann said. "It's just a joy to see him every day, in training and now getting his goals that he was waiting for such a long time for—and now they're coming. He was a bit disappointed when I told him that he's not coming off the start

right away, but I told him 'We got to keep your goals for the second half,'—which he did."

Wondolowski, Donovan and Holden all are making a case to be included in the player pool for World Cup qualifiers at Costa Rica on Sept. 6 and at home against Mexico four days later.

"The benchmark for us now

starts with Costa Rica," Klinsmann said. "We're looking forward to that match. We need now games where we're eye-to-eye with the opponent."

Donovan, a veteran of three World Cups hasn't played for the national team in 11 months before the Guatemala match because of injuries and a four-

month sabbatical from soccer that ended in late March.

Holden made his first start for the U.S. since an exhibition against Colombia on Oct. 12, 2010. A knee injury the following March sustained from a tackle by Manchester United's Jonny Evans limited the Bolton midfielder to one club match in the next 22 months.

The Americans, who have not won the North and Central American and Caribbean championship since 2007, complete the first round Tuesday against Costa Rica in East Hartford, Conn., then play their quarterfinal at Baltimore on July 21.

Cuba, ranked 82nd by FIFA—a full 60 spots behind the U.S.—gave the Americans an unexpected test.

Before a crowd of 17,597 at Rio Tinto Stadium, Jose Ciprian Alfonso put Cuba (0-2) ahead in the 36th minute. He beat defender Oguchi Onyewu to a cutback pass from Ariel Marti-

nez, who has rounded left back Edgar Castillo near the end line. Ciprian Alfonso then sent a right-footed shot past goalkeeper Nick Rimando.

Donovan tied the score in the second minute of stoppage time with a penalty kick, extending his U.S. scoring record.

Corona finally gave the Americans lead in the 57th when he latched onto a loose ball and let loose a curling a shot from the edge of the penalty area.

"We were trying to get a quick goal in the second half, so we could get that confidence back and try to play our game and try to get more goals," Corona said.

Wondolowski made it 3-1 with his close-range flick off a cross from Kyle Beckerman. He finished off the scoring from the center of the penalty area.

"It's such a huge honor, any time you put on that jersey, any time I see that jersey, it just gives me chills and I love being a part of it," Wondolowski said.

## Summerhays grabs 2-shot lead at John Deere Classic



**SILVIS, Ill.**

(AP)—Calm skies

and a near-perfect course gave every golfer at the John Deere Classic the chance to shoot a really low number on Saturday.

Daniel Summerhays went lower than everyone else, seizing firm control heading into Sunday's final round.

Summerhays shot a 9-under 62 for a two-stroke lead following third-round play. Summerhays, whose previous best finish on the PGA Tour was a tie for fourth, enters the final round at 19-under 194 and in position for his first career win.

He notched 10 birdies while matching the lowest third-round score in tournament history.

"I think when I'm playing well the mentality is make as many birdies as you can," Summerhays said. "I'm really looking forward to (Sunday). I'm playing really well."

Canadian David Hearn (64) is second at 17 under. Defending champion Zach Johnson held a share of the lead after each of the first two rounds, but he's now alone in third after shooting a 67.

J.J. Henry and Jerry Kelly are tied for fourth at 15 under, while Nicholas Thompson leads three golfers at 14 under.

Summerhays had missed three straight cuts—failing to shoot a round under 70 in those events—before finishing ninth last week at the Greenbrier Classic.

He's been hot all weekend at Deere Run, though, and Saturday marked the lowest round of his career.

Summerhays blew a 2-shot lead during the final round of the Mayakoba Classic in Mexico last year and finished fifth, but he in-

sists that he'll take an easygoing approach into Sunday.

"I know there's going to be obstacles and challenges, as there always are. There are always things that stand in your way. But I'm just excited to see what those are and deal with them," Summerhays said.

Hearn finished with three birdies in four holes to pull within two shots of Summerhays. After matching 66s, Hearn went two strokes lower to give himself a chance on Sunday.

Johnson had been remarkably consistent over his last six rounds at Deere Run, but for the first time in a long time, Johnson found himself battling just to hang close to the leaders. He eagled No. 2 with a 60-foot putt to grab the lead outright but a bogey at the par-4 6th was his first here in 62 holes, and he picked up another one five holes later.

Still, Johnson likes his chances heading into the finale.

"I certainly think there were a lot more positives out there than negatives," Johnson said. "My putter has been great. Even the ones I've missed have been great."

No amateur has won on the PGA Tour in 22 years but for about 15 minutes, unheralded Stanford amateur Patrick Rodgers was alone atop the leaderboard.

Rodgers was 7 under through 12 holes—a stretch capped by a winding 57-foot birdie that put him a shot clear of the field—and enters the finale at 12 under.

"Kind of got a mental hurdle off my back making my first cut in a professional event, so (Saturday) was pressure free. It was good. I could just go out there and make a ton of birdies," said Rodgers, a two-time All-American at Stanford.

## Dwight Howard, from Superman to Rocket Man

**HOUSTON** (AP)—Dwight Howard has a new team and catchy new nickname.

"He's not Superman anymore. He's Rocket Man now," longtime Rockets broadcaster Bill Worrell said Saturday as he introduced the team's major free agent acquisition.

As Howard took the stage and greeted several Houston officials including owner Leslie Alexander and coach Kevin McHale, a couple of his new teammates playfully repeated his new moniker—"Rocket Man, Rocket Man"—and were met with a huge, toothy smile from Howard.

"It means a lot to me just to have a fresh start and have an opportunity to write my own story," Howard said. "I don't think people understood the fact that I got traded to L.A., and now I had a chance to really choose my own destiny, and this

is the place where I chose and I'm happy about it."

The Rockets gave him a four-year deal worth about \$88 million, a year less and far below the \$118 million the Lakers could have offered.

The center was formally introduced in Houston on Saturday after spurning the Lakers to sign with the Rockets. He was greeted by some of the brightest stars in team history.

Hall of Fame center Hakeem Olajuwon and Yao Ming were among those on hand to celebrate Howard's signing. Also joining the party were Ralph Sampson, Clyde Drexler and Elvin Hayes.

He will be the latest in a storied line of centers to play for the Rockets. He has long worked with Olajuwon to improve his game, and "The Dream" was among the contingent that flew to Los Angeles to woo him into joining the Rockets.

Olajuwon didn't shy away from raving about his student.

"He is the missing piece where he can really bring the team to a championship contender," he said.

Howard joins a team starring James Harden that reached the playoffs for the first time since 2009 and battled back from a 3-0 deficit before being eliminated by the Oklahoma City Thunder in Game 6.

General manager Daryl Morey, who led the effort to land Howard, is excited about upgrading his team and knows this puts the Rockets among the pre-season favorites to contend for a championship.

"I think it absolutely gives us a chance," he said. "What you do this job for is to have a chance. The reality is five to seven teams have a chance any given year. The way it is in this league, you've got to have multiple All-Stars, you generally

have to have dominant top players and we have two guys that we think are in the top 10 in the league in James and Dwight."

Howard was traded from Orlando to the Lakers in a four-team trade that also included Philadelphia and Denver last year. He recovered from back surgery last season and averaged 17.1 points and 12.4 rebounds.

His one season in Los Angeles was filled with unrest, including an admission that there were times that he wasn't having fun and what many believed to be a less than positive relationship with Kobe Bryant.

The Rockets believe that will change in Houston.

"If you can be a great player and can't be happy, what difference does it make? He'll be very happy here," Alexander said. "Dwight recognizes that his boyhood dreams will come true as a Rocket."

# Poseidon, Waterfront get awards in SBA Thursday League



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Players and sponsors of Poseidon Hustlers, right photo, and Waterfront Juggernauts pose with their trophies during the award ceremony for the Saipan Billiards Association 8-Ball League Winter/Spring 2013 yesterday at Charley's Cabaret of the Pacific Islands Club.



Poseidon Hustlers and Waterfront Juggernauts received trophies during the award ceremony for the Saipan Billiards Association 8-Ball League Winter/Spring 2013 yesterday at Charley's Cabaret of the Pacific Islands Club.

The Hustlers, who are sponsored by Poseidon Bar & Grill, were named the Budweiser Cup champions in the Thursday League. The team is composed of captain Jerry Soriano, Senen Pangilinan, Rodel Dela Cruz,

Simeon Kapileo, Phil Kalen, Jun Lee, Roy Pangelinan, and Robert Sanciangco.

The Hustlers also took the third place trophy in the Thursday League, which Waterfront Juggernauts dominated, beating five other squads. Greg De Leon Guerrero captained the Thursday League champions and teamed up with Boyet Sequioco, Zaldy Quebral, Victor Formales, Juancho Mendoza, Neil Ayson, and Warlee Ellama. Waterfront Karaoke sponsored the squad.

Joining Waterfront Juggernauts and Poseidon Hustlers in

the Top 3 is Bammy's Equalizers 2. The runner-up team had Rolly Bermiso, Leandro Constantino, Edgar Alba, Ruben Esmundo, Enrico Montano, and Ernie Garillo as members and Primo Ferrera and Bammy's Restaurant as captain and sponsor, respectively.

Members and sponsors of the Top 3 teams and the Bud Cup champions received individual trophies, while the organizing Pacific Amusement handed plaques to individual awardees.

Soriano won two individual awards after topping the run

the rack category and getting the MVP honors, while Nolan Cultura brought home the top performer plaque.

Pacific Amusement recognized, too Jonny's Team SCS for getting the Sportsmanship Award. Jonny's Team SCS is composed of captain Erwin Gomez, Jerry Tiu, Joey Paranada, Bryan Fabre, Caloy Lubi, Rick Reyes, Toto Bigcas, Lisa Gomez, and Carmina Benitez.

Awardees in the Tuesday League will be reported in *Saipan Tribune*'s Tuesday edition. (*Saipan Tribune*)

ter Market routing Yuichiro.

Sister Market pulled away in the third period en route to the 15-point win, its first after bowing to Mawati last week (68-74). Ahead by only eight at halftime, 43-35, Sister Market leaned on his balance offense to stretch the advantage to 18 at the end of the third canto, 69-51. Six players scored at least two baskets apiece for Sister Market, while only John Darag and James Villacrusis made more than 4 points each for Yuichiro.

Darag and Villacrusis kept pouring the points for Yuichiro and drew some help from Frank Mettao in an attempt to overtake Sister Market's lead. However, Sister Market got enough

## ADODO

*From Page 28*

grabbing the lead when Ralph Francisco went 0-for-2 from the foul line and Adrian Francisco committed a traveling violation from the right baseline. With two Adobo botched plays, the possession went back to Radio Comm, which also failed to cash in on its offensive set with Albert Salas's triple from the right corner hitting nothing but the air and Perry Tenorio losing the ball to Francisco after getting the offensive rebound.

Francisco went on to complete the big play, as he sprinted to their frontcourt and drilled the fastbreak layup, giving Adobo the lead, 74-73, 18.4 seconds remaining in the game. The time was down to 14.5 after an Adobo hustle play off the inbound, but Radio Comm kept the leather, which it later lost anew, as Jun Pantaleon had his back turn when he made a short pass to Ong near the baseline.

Palacios intercepted the pass and threw it to L.J. Hemley, who was then fouled on his way to the basket, with just 1 second left on the clock. Hemley made the split to peg the final score, as a catch and shoot play for Radio Comm

did not materialize when Zapanta fumbled after receiving the inbound pass from Pantaleon. Francisco top-scored for Sister Market with his 22 points, while Tabora contributed 18. Darag led Yuichiro (0-2) with his 25 markers.

### First Game

**Sister Market 90** — Teregeyo 22, Tabora 18, Jugos 11, Bisana 10, Capalad 7, Barrozo 2, Mateo 2, Saplan 2, Norita 2, Tobias 2, Santos 2.

**Yuichiro 75** — Darag 25, Z. Babauta 15, Villacrusis 15, Mettao 12, R. Babauta 2, Rapantan 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 19-17, 43-35, 69-51, 90-75.

### Second Game

**Adobo 75** — Francisco 22, Palacios 14, Dela Cruz 11, Saturno 11, Yap 7, Moran 5, Mamaril 2, Hemley 2, Javier 2.

**Radio Comm 73** — Inos 17, Zapanta 15, Ong 13, Salas 9, Ritual 6, Marcadesh 4, Pantaleon 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 22-21, 40-39, 52-61, 75-73.

## LUKA & BEN

*From Page 28*

942-lb record of Emmanuel, which joined this year's derby, but failed to land a single catch on last Saturday's competition.

Only 12 boats managed to turn in their catch in Day 1 with Team Kaijin arriving first at Smiling Cove Marina around 1pm and

registering a 129-lb marlin. Reina Kai came in a few minutes later with its 94.5-lb bill fish.

At 4:30pm, Team Kaijin was relegated to second place as My Lady Gora's captain Kaching Aldan and crew members Jason Aldan, Bernard Arriola, and Henry Hofschneider came with their 133.85-lb marlin. Kaching Aldan said they found the bill fish east of Tinian at 9:45am.

*My Lady Gora*'s stint at the top spot did not last even for an hour, as Luka & Ben docked at the marina at 5:20pm with their 221.5-lb marlin. Next up at the scale was the heaviest yellow fin on Day 1 — a 41.75 lb fish from Mizuari. A big mahi was also caught last Saturday with Sen. Ralph Torres and crew at Saba bringing in the 39.05-lb fish.

SFA will award cash and in-

kind prizes to the Top 3 boats with the heaviest (single catch) mahi, yellow fin, wahoo, and skipjack. Cash prizes will also be given out to the boat that tops the total weight category. Only the bill fish, yellow fin, wahoo, and mahi that weighs in at least 15lb each will be considered in the total weight division. Luka & Ben won last year's total weight category (217.60 lbs).

## MOBIL

*From Page 28*

matech sued for time and when the game resumed Elmer Esdrelon went for a drive and draw play, dishing the ball out to 6'9" center Ken McCain. However, McCain fumbled, as he was hounded by Estolas and Marvin Rabauliman.

Fortunately for Armatech, Rabauliman was called stepping on the baseline as he tried to save the ball. Armatech then went for its second offensive set with 12 seconds to go with Junnar Guiab making the inbound and passing the leather to Marlon De Dios right under the basket. De Dios faked off the defense of Estolas and thought he was fouled when the referee

blew his whistle. Instead, the Armatech big man was called for a traveling violation and Mobil was awarded possession, 11 seconds remaining in the game.

A Freddie Pelisamen error off the dribble after the inbound play returned the leather to Armatech with David picking up the loose ball. David then threw a forward pass to Guiab, who was not in a good position to pull up for a shot and decided to kick the ball back to the former. David went for a reverse layup and missed. Armatech and Mobil players then tapped the ball out in the rebound play and the leather landed in front of Elmer Esdrelon at the right key, about 10 feet away from the basket. Esdrelon quickly picked it up

and threw a prayer with the shot going in. However, the basket was not counted after the referee conferred with the table officials, who said that time had already lapsed with the ball still on Esdrelon's hands.

Rabauliman led Mobil's come-from-behind win with his 25 points, while Pelisamen added 24. Rabauliman's two free throws in the closing minutes moved Mobil within two, 89-91. He earlier broke up an Armatech 3-on-1 fastbreak play and drew an advantage foul against Guiab to give Mobil two charities plus possession, with 1:13 left on the clock. After Rabauliman's two charities, Mobil faltered on its first two offensive sets with Errol Peredo 4, Santos 3, Gabaldon 2.

**Mobil 93** — Rabauliman 25, Pelisamen 24, Babauta 20, Estolas 17, Peredo 7.

**Armatach 92** — Talania 20, Guiab 18, McCain 15, Esdrelon 12, De Dios 8, David 4, Manalo 4, Santos 3, Gabaldon 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 22-19, 46-41, 76-67, 93-92.

ever, Mobil got the game-tying basket on the third serving with Estolas spotting Pelisamen underneath the goal, 34 seconds left on the clock. A Guiab split in the ensuing play put Armatach back in the lead, 92-91, but Estolas answered with a pair of charities to grab the driver's seat and the shorthanded Mobil went on to keep the upper hand and the win with its crucial defensive stops.

**Mobil 93** — Rabauliman 25, Pelisamen 24, Babauta 20, Estolas 17, Peredo 7.

**Armatach 92** — Talania 20,

Guiab 18, McCain 15, Esdrelon 12, De Dios 8, David 4, Manalo 4, Santos 3, Gabaldon 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 22-19,

46-41, 76-67, 93-92.

**Sister Market 90, Yuichiro 75**

The other match last Saturday had a contrasting result with Sis-

# Weekend Sports

## Basketball leagues keep action going

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

**B**asketball leagues are giving life to the slow sports season on the island.

In the Emon Lodge No. 179 Brotherhood Basketball League 2013/Docomo Pacific Cup, the Ol' Aces debuted with an emphatic 88-55 win over the Blaz-

ers, while AXE Proa coasted past Mobil, 99-83. Also registering wins in Week 3 of the Emon Lodge caging were KFC/Taco Bell, Pacific Islands Club, and Mobil.

KFC/Taco Bell went 2-0 after routing Armatech, 76-58, before losing to Proa last Thursday. Pacific Islands Club broke into the win column via an 86-76 victory over San Roque, while Mobil

pulled off a 93-92 triumph over Armatech last Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Over at the Gualo Rai Court for the 2013 DL Corporation Invitational Basketball League, Mawati and Adobo opened the competition with double-digit winning margins. Mawati whipped Sister Market, 88-74, while Adobo pounded Kalayan, 83-55.

Also recording wins in the opening week of the newest league on island were Kamikaze, Radio Comm, Maplas, and the San Antonio Slashers. Kamikaze outclassed Yuichiro Printing, 84-73; Radio Comm edged Flip Top, 78-75; Maplas nipped Balaholics, 64-63; and San Antonio crushed the Snipers, 82-47.

In other news last week, the Northern Marianas Athletics

and Northern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation announced their representatives to off-island competitions.

NMA named Jesus Iguel as its lone entry to the 14th IAAF World Championships that will be held in Moscow, Russia, next month. NMISF, on the other hand, will send Rezne Wong, Victoria Chentsova, Kensuke

Kimura, and Angel De Jesus to Barcelona, Spain later this month to compete in the 15th FINA World Championships.

In another off-island competition, the CNMI joined the 27th Summer Universiade in Kasan, Russia, with Clay McCullough-Stearns and John Nekaifes playing in the beach volleyball tournament against Czech Republic, Oman, and Austria.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
AXE Proa's Quincy Johnson goes up for a layup against Mobil's Errol Peredo during the second quarter of their game in the Emon Lodge caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
The CNMI's John Nekaifes returns a shot to Oman during their beach volleyball game in the 27th Summer Universiade in Kasan, Russia, last week.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
The CNMI's Clay McCullough-Stearns goes for a block against Czech Republic during their beach volleyball game in the 27th Summer Universiade in Kasan, Russia, last week.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
San Roque and Pacific Islands Club players watch the shot of Nikko Salem during the fourth quarter of their game in the Emon Lodge caging last week at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
San Antonio's Melbert Dela Rama pulls up for a jumper against the Snipers' Mac Lagado during the fourth quarter of their game in the DL Corporation caging last week at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
Yuichiro's John Darag goes up for a jumper against Kamikaze's Marlon De Dios during the fourth quarter of their game in the DL Corporation caging last week at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.



**Lincecum throws  
1st no-hitter  
in win over  
Padres**

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# Saipan Tribune Sports



**Wondolowski  
scores twice,  
US beats  
Cuba**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Luka & Ben lands heaviest catch in derby

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

**A** 221.5-lb marlin was the heaviest catch in the slow Day 1 of the 29th Annual Saipan International Fishing Derby.



The bill fish belonged to perennial derby entry *Luka & Ben*, which is skippered by Rick George and has Ben Fitipol, Steven Igisaiar, Philip and Melvin Aldan, and Mika Okubo as crew members. The group picked up last Saturday's heaviest catch at 9:14am and brought it to the boat at

9:34am and while George was accurate in giving times, he declined to specify where they caught the nearly seven-foot marlin.

"Let's keep it a secret. We still have one day to fish," said George, as he watched staff from the Division of Fish and Wildlife unload the huge bill fish from a pickup truck.

The second and final day of the derby was held yesterday with the 54 boats allowed to fish beginning at 6am and bring in their catch at Smiling Cove Marina by 6pm. The official results of the event have yet to be announced at press time, but as of 6:30pm, L.J. Castro, who was the host of the two-day competition, said no boat has surpassed *Luka & Ben*'s catch. However, Castro added that one boat had landed two marlins weighing more than 100 lbs each.

Once the organizing Saipan Fishermen Association announces *Luka & Ben* the winner of the weekend competition tonight, George and his crew will get their second grand prize. *Luka & Ben* caught a 420-lb bill fish in 2011 to take its first grand prize, while a record 942-marlin came in during Day 1 of the last year's derby, courtesy of the crew members of Guam's *Emmanuel*. A whopping \$10,000 would have been awarded to the boat that surpasses the

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*Luka & Ben* crew members and supporters pose with their 221.5-lb marlin at the Smiling Cove Marina weighing station last Saturday during Day 1 of the 29th Annual Saipan International Fishing Derby.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



## Mobil sneaks past Armatech

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The six-man crew of Mobil rallied past Armatech in the fourth quarter to pull off a 93-92 victory in the second game in the Emon Lodge No. 179 Brotherhood Basketball League 2013/Docomo Pacific Cup last Saturday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Mobil grabbed the victory, its second in three games, despite trailing by as much as 13 points in the fourth canto with Jun Estolas putting the team on the lead and the rest of his teammates making a couple of defensive stops to hand Armatech its second straight loss.

Estolas canned two free throws off a Noel David foul from the baseline to give Mobil a precarious one-point lead, 17 seconds left on the clock. Ar-



**Mobil's Zack Babauta**  
leans in for a jumper  
against Armatech's  
Noel David during  
the third quarter of  
their game in the  
Emon Lodge caging  
last Thursday night  
at the Gilbert C. Ada  
Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

## Adobo nips Radio Comm for second win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

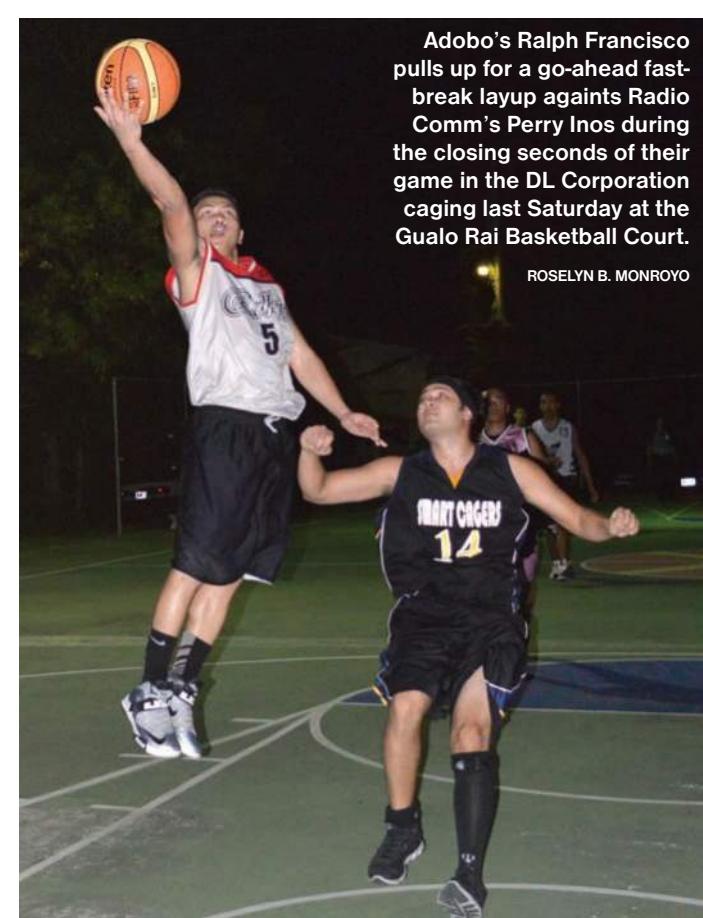
 Adobo took the early lead in Pool B of the 2013 DL Corporation Invitational Basketball League after slipping past Radio Comm, 75-73, in the second game last Saturday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Adobo notched its second win in as many games, while Radio Comm fell to a 1-1 slate after wasting an 11-point lead in the opening minutes of the fourth canto, 64-53.

Radio Comm, which won its debut against Flip Top, 78-75, had the driver's seat for the last time at the 73-72 tally after D.J. Ong made a putback off Justin Zapanta's missed triple, 55.8 seconds left on the clock.

Adobo, which came from a huge 83-55 win over Kalayaan in the league opener, then muffed its early chances of

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**Adobo's Ralph Francisco**  
pulls up for a go-ahead fast-break layup against Radio Comm's Perry Inos during the closing seconds of their game in the DL Corporation caging last Saturday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO